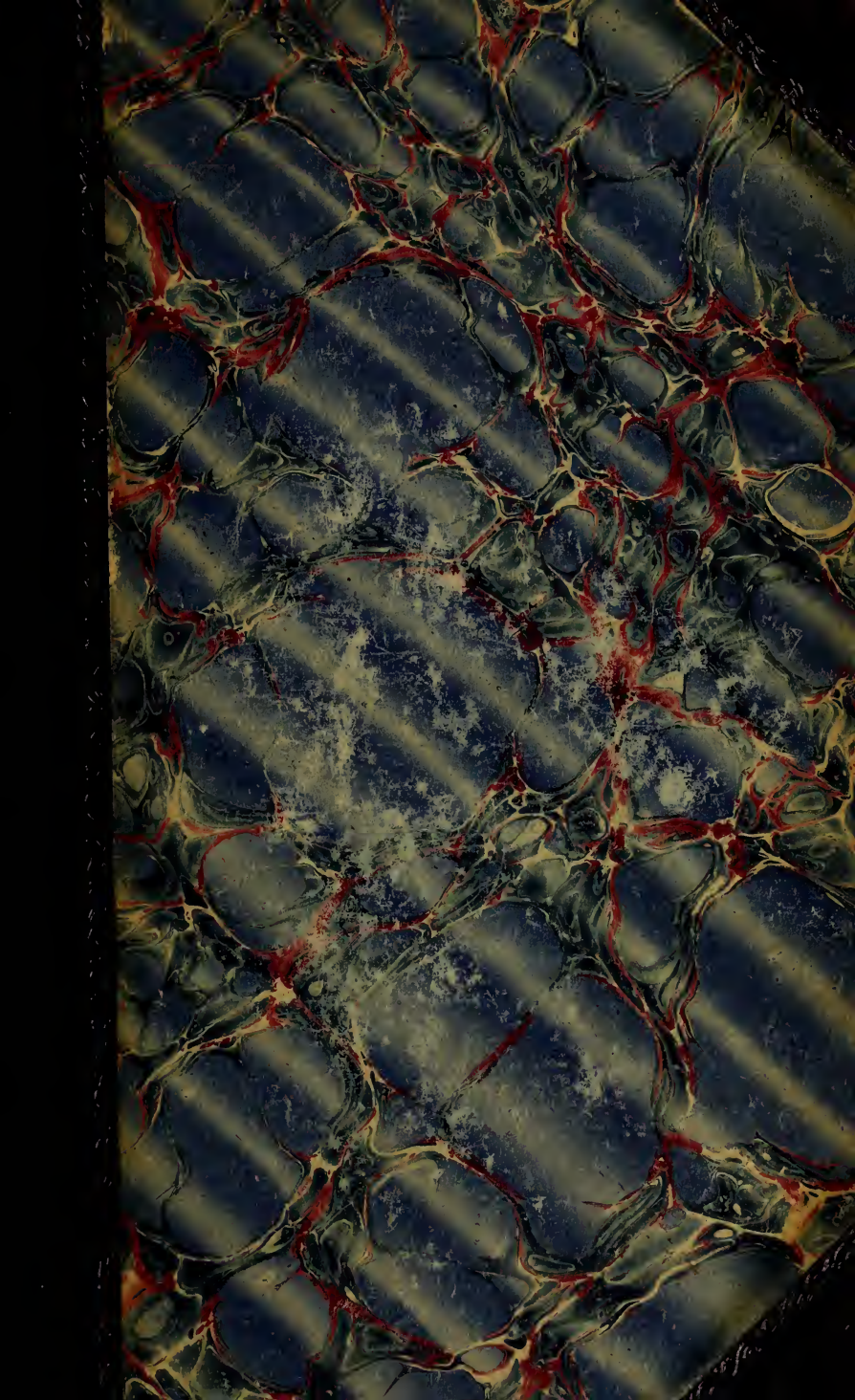






1883.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER

OF

Royal Arch Masons

OF CANADA,

AT ITS

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION,

HELD IN THE



Masonic Hall, corner of Rideau and
Little Sussex streets, in the

City of Ottawa, Friday, July 13th, A. D.
1883; A. L. 2413; A. L. 5883.

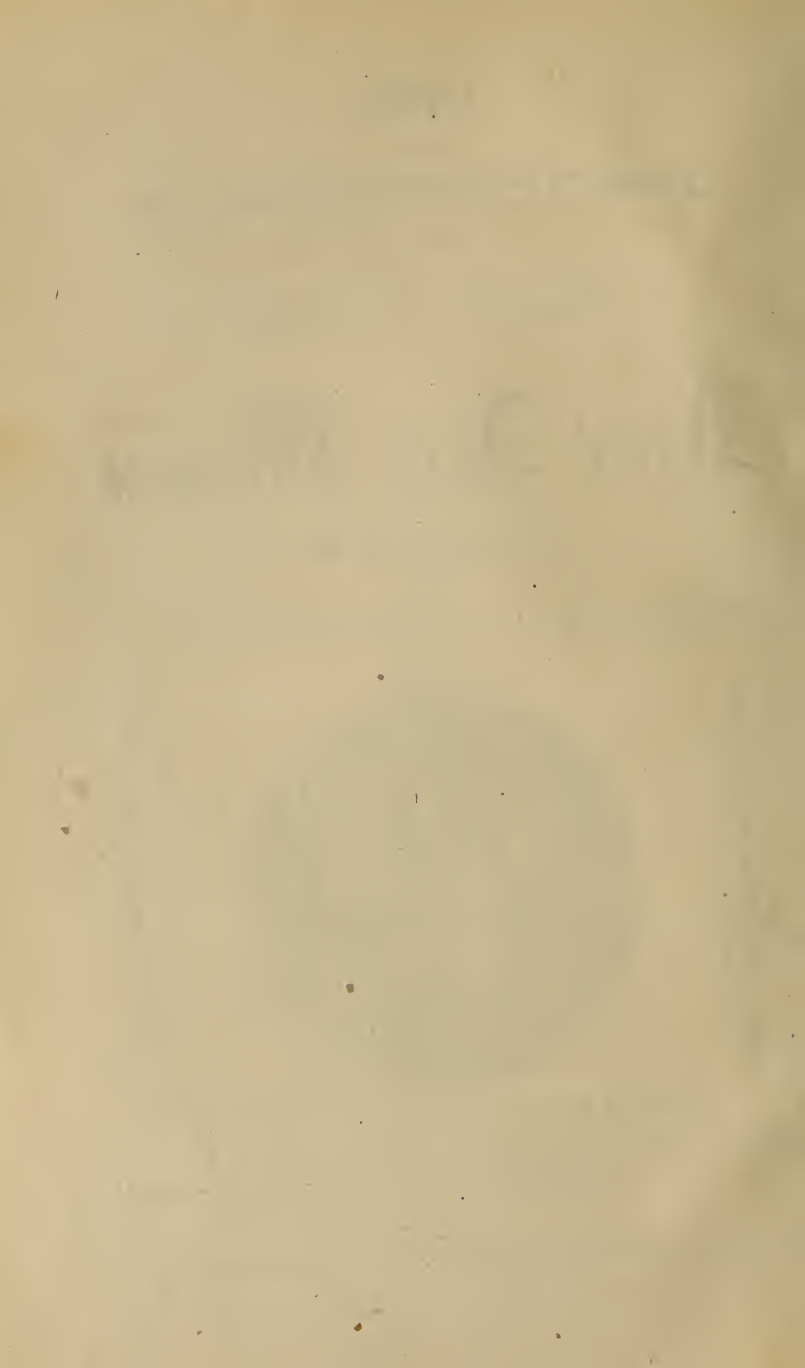
ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL CHAPTERS AND PRESERVED.

ADDRESS:—HENRY MACPHERSON, OWEN SOUND, ONT., GRAND Z.

DAVID McLELLAN, HAMILTON, ONT., GRAND SCRIBE E.

1883:

J. B. TRAYES, PRINTER, "CRAFTSMAN" STEAM PRESS, PORT HOPE, ONT.



Grand Chapter of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

The Twenty-sixth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, corner of Rideau and Little Sussex streets, in the City of Ottawa, on Friday, the 13th day of July, A. D. 1883, A. I. 2413.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. E. Comp.	Donald Ross,	Grand Z.	} Grand Council.
R. " "	Henry Macpherson,	" H.	
R. " "	Thomas Sargent,	" J.	
On the Throne.			

R. E. Comp.	David McLellan,	Gr'd Scribe E.
" "	William Gibson, as	" " N.
" "	J. J. Mason, as	" Prin. Soj.
E. "	George Chrystal as	" Treasurer.
R. E. "	John Creasor,	" Registrar.
V. E. "	Wm. G. Reid,	" 1st Asst. Soj.
E. "	Alex. Patterson, as	" 2nd "
E. "	Joseph Beck, as	" Sword Bearer.
E. "	Frank B. Gregory, as	" Master of Veils.
E. "	D. W. Mayes, as	" Stan'd Bearer.
R. E. "	Wm. Forbes, as	" Dir. of Cer.
V. E. "	John Scoon,	" Organist.
E. "	Edwin Plant, as	" Pursuivant.
E. "	Wm. Waddington as	" Steward.
E. "	John S. Dewar, as	" "
E. "	James Walters, as	" "
E. "	C. F. Forrest, as	" "
" "	John Sweetman,	" Janitor.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF DISTRICTS.

R. E. Comp.	Robert Mackay,	London	District.
" "	William Gibson,	Hamilton	"
" "	Charles Doeblor,	Ontario	"
" "	G. M. Wilkinson,	Central	"
" "	William G. Scott,	Manitoba	"

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. E. Comp.	James Seymour,	Past G. Z.
" "	L. H. Henderson,	" G. Z.
" "	Daniel Spry,	" G. Z.
R. E. "	Thos. C. Macnabb,	" G. H.
" "	Kivas Tully,	" G. J.
" "	Henry Robertson,	" G. J.
" "	R. J. Hovenden,	" G. Supt.
" "	A. G. Smyth,	" "
" "	J. M. Gibson,	" "
" "	J. W. Murton,	" "
" "	J. G. Burns,	" "
" "	John Ross Robertson,	" "
" "	H. K. Maitland,	" "
" "	John McLaren,	" "
" "	Wm. Forbes,	" G. S. N.
" "	J. J. Mason,	" G. R.
" "	William Kerr,	" "

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

M. E. Comp.	Jas. Seymour, from G. Chap. of Indiana.	
" "	"	" Iowa.
" "	"	" Mark Lo'ge of E. & W.
" "	L. H. Henderson,	" Colorado.
" "	Daniel Spry,	" New Jersey.
" "	"	" Quebec.
" "	Donald Ross,	" Connecticut.
R. E. "	John McLaren,	" Arkansas.
" "	Henry Macpherson,	" California.

R. E. Comp.	T. C. Macnabb,	from G. Chap. of Delaware.
"	"	Henry Robertson,
"	"	"
"	"	"
"	"	David McLellan,
"	"	"
"	"	William Forbes,
"	"	J. M. Gibson,
"	"	Thos. Sargant,
"	"	J. G. Burns,
"	"	John Ross Robertson,
"	"	J. J. Mason,
"	"	Robert Hendry, Jr.,
"	"	R. J. Hovenden,
"	"	William Gibson,
"	"	J. B. Nixon,
"	"	Dist. Columbia
"	"	Mississippi.
"	"	New York.
"	"	Georgia.
"	"	N. Hampshire.
"	"	Illinois.
"	"	Kansas.
"	"	Kentucky.
"	"	Maryland.
"	"	Nebraska.
"	"	Nevada.
"	"	Nova Scotia.
"	"	Oregon.
"	"	Tennessee.
"	"	Vermont.

PAST FIRST PRINCIPALS.

M. E. Comp.	Jas. Seymour,	R. E. Comp.	Wm. Kerr.
"	"	L. H. Henderson.	V. E. " John Walsh.
"	"	Daniel Spry.	E. " John Satchell.
"	"	Donald Ross.	" " Joseph Beck.
R. E.	"	Geo. M. Wilkinson.	" " F'k B. Gregory.
"	"	R. J. Hovenden.	R. E. " H'y Robertson.
"	"	A. G. Smyth.	E. " John Parry.
E.	"	M. D. Dawson.	" " T. L. M. Tipton.
R. E.	"	R. B. Hungerford.	R. E. " Chas. Doebler.
"	"	J. J. Mason.	V. E. " John Scoon.
"	"	Wm. Gibson.	R. E. " H. K. Maitland.
"	"	David McLellan.	E. " Jno. E. Harding.
"	"	J. M. Gibson.	R. E. " T. C. Macnabb.
"	"	J. W. Murton.	" " Wm. G. Scott.
V. E.	"	Wm. G. Reid.	E. " C. F. Forrest.
R. E.	"	Thos. Sargant.	R. E. " Robt. Mackay.
E.	"	Alex. Patterson.	" " John Creasor.
R. E.	"	J. G. Burns.	E. " D. W. Mayes.

R. E.	Comp. J. Ross Robertson.	E. Comp. W. S. Robinson
"	" Kivas Tully.	V. E. " J. G. Robinson.
E.	" Wm. Waddington.	R. E. " John McLaren.
R. E.	" Robt. Hendry, Jr.	" " John Moore.
"	" Wm. Forbes.	" " F. Gallow.
E.	" Thos. McCarroll.	

VISITOR.

M. E. Comp. John H. Graham, P. G. Z., Grand Chapter of Quebec.

A constitutional number of Chapters being represented by their qualified officers, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada was opened in *Ample Form* at 10.25 a.m.

R. E. Comp. R. Hendry, Jr., from the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, reported that there were seventy-eight Chapters on the Roll of Grand Chapter, of which number forty were represented by the following Companions:—

No. 1. Ancient Frontenac Chapter, Kingston.

E. Comp. W. D. Gordon,	Z.
E. " H. J. Wilkinson,	H.
R. E. " Geo. M. Wilkinson,	P. Z.

No. 2. The Hiram Chapter, Hamilton.

E. Comp. F. F. Dalley,	Z.
E. " Otto Klotz,	P. H.

No. 3. St. John's Chapter, London.

E. Comp. J. S. Dewar,	J.
-----------------------	----

No. 4. St. Andrew and St. John Chapter, Toronto.

R. E. Comp. R. J. Hovenden,	P. Z. Proxy.
-----------------------------	--------------

No. 5. St. George's Chapter, London.

E. Comp. A. Ellis, Jr.,	Z.
E. " M. D. Dawson,	P. Z.
R. E. " R. B. Hungerford,	P. Z.
" " A. G. Smyth,	P. Z.

No. 6. St. John's Chapter, Hamilton.

	E. Comp.	J. A. Malcolm,	H.
V. E.	"	Wm. G. Reid,	P. Z.
R. E.	"	J. J. Mason,	P. Z.
	"	Wm. Gibson,	P. Z.
	"	David McLellan,	P. Z.
	"	John M. Gibson,	P. Z.
	"	John W. Murton,	P. Z.

No. 7. Moira Chapter, Belleville.

	E. Comp.	W. L. Hamilton,	P. H.
	E.	W. H. Ponton,	P. H.
M. E.	"	L. H. Henderson,	P. Z.

No. 8. King Solomon's Chapter, Toronto.

	E. Comp.	Alex. Patterson,	Z.
	E.	P. J. Slatter,	H.
	E.	J. A. Wills,	J.
R. E.	"	Thos. Sargant,	P. Z.
	"	David McLellan,	P. Z.
	"	J. G. Burns,	P. Z.
	"	J. Ross Robertson,	P. Z.
	"	Kivas Tully,	P. Z.
M. E.	"	Daniel Spry,	P. Z.

No. 10. New Brunswick Chapter, St. John, N. B.

	R. E. Comp.	David McLellan,	P. Z., Proxy.
--	-------------	-----------------	---------------

No. 11. St. Mark's Chapter, St. Andrew, N. B.

	R. E. Comp.	David McLellan,	P. Z., Proxy.
--	-------------	-----------------	---------------

No. 12. Cataraqui Chapter, Kingston.

	E. Comp.	Wm. Waddington,	Z.
	E.	A. Shaw,	H.
R. E.	"	Robt. Hendry, Jr.,	P. Z.

No. 16. Carleton Chapter, Ottawa.

	E. Comp.	Edwin Plant,	Z.
	E.	Frederick Marett,	P. J.
R. E.	"	William Kerr,	P. Z.
V. E.	"	John Walsh,	P. Z.
	E.	John Satchell,	P. Z.

No. 19.	Mount Moriah Chapter, St. Catharines.	
	M. E. Comp. Jas. Seymour,	P. Z.
No. 22.	Grenville Chapter, Prescott.	
	E. Comp. John Satchell,	P. Z.
No. 24.	Tecumseh Chapter, Stratford.	
	E. Comp. Joseph Beck,	P. Z., Proxy.
No. 27.	Manitou Chapter, Collingwood.	
	E. Comp. Frank B. Gregory,	Z.
	R. E. " Henry Macpherson,	P. Z.
	" " Henry Robertson,	P. Z.
No. 28.	Pentalpha Chapter, Oshawa.	
	E. Comp. Robert McCaw,	H.
No. 29.	McCallum Chapter, Dunnville.	
	E. Comp. Thos. L. M. Tipton,	Z.
	E. " John Parry,	P. Z.
No. 30.	Huron Chapter, Goderich.	
	E. Comp. Joseph Beck,	P. Z., Proxy.
No. 31.	Prince Edward Chapter, Picton.	
	M. E. Comp. Donald Ross,	P. Z.
No. 34.	Signet Chapter, Barrie.	
	M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry,	P. Z.
No. 37.	Victoria Chapter, Port Hope.	
	R. E. Comp. Chas. Doebler,	Z.
No. 38.	Seymour Chapter, Bradford.	
	M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry,	P. Z., Proxy.
No. 40.	Guelph Chapter, Guelph.	
	V. E. Comp. John Scoon,	P. Z.
	R. E. " H. K. Maitland,	P. Z.
No. 44.	Mount Sinai Chapter, Napanee.	
	E. Comp. James Walters,	Z.
	E. " Ogden Hinch,	H.
	M. E. " Donald Ross,	P. Z.

- No. 46. St. James' Chapter, St. Mary's.
E. Comp. John E. Harding, P. Z.
- No. 47. Wellington Chapter, Cbatham.
R. E. Comp. Thos. C. Macnabb, P. Z.
- No. 48. St. John's Chapter, Cobourg.
R. E. Comp. Chas. Doebler, P. Z., Proxy.
- No. 52. Prince Rupert Chapter, Winnipeg.
E. Comp. C. F. Forrest, P. Z., Proxy.
R. E. " Wm. G. Scott, P. Z.
- No. 53. Bruce Chapter, Petrolia.
R. E. Comp. Robert Mackay, P. Z., Proxy.
- No. 54. Palestine Chapter, St. Thomas.
R. E. Comp. Robert Mackay, P. Z., Proxy.
- No. 55. Niagara Chapter, Niagara.
M. E. Comp. James Seymour, P. Z.
- No. 56. Georgian Chapter, Owen Sound.
R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, P. Z.
" " John Creasor, P. Z.
- No. 60. Doric Chapter, Newmarket.
E. Comp. D. W. Mayes, Z.
- No. 61. Granite Chapter, Almonte.
E. Comp. Wm. Smith, Z.
E. " Robt. Pollock, H.
- No. 62. York Chapter, Eglington.
R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, P. Z.]
- No. 63. Havelock Chapter, Kincardine.
E. Comp. De Witt H. Martyn, Z.
- No. 64. Willson Chapter, Welland.
E. Comp. J. Murison Dunn, Z.
- No. 65. Ontario Chapter, Yorkville.
E. Comp. Wm. S. Robinson, P. Z.
V. E. " J. G. Robinson, P. Z.

No. 66.	Seaforth Chapter, Clinton.	
	E. Comp. Joseph Beck,	P. Z., Proxy.
No. 67.	Enterprise Chapter, Harriston.	
	R. E. Comp. John McLaren,	P. Z.
No. 68.	Maitland Chapter, Maitland.	
	E. Comp. John Satchell,	P. Z.
	R. E. " John Moore,	P. Z.
No. 69.	Grimsby Chapter, Grimsby.	
	R. E. Comp. Wm. Forbes,	P. Z.
	" " J. J. Mason,	P. Z.
	" " Wm. Gibson,	P. Z.
No. 70.	Grand River Chapter, Berlin.	
	V. E. Comp. John Scoon,	P. Z., Proxy.
No. 75.	St. Clair Chapter, Milton.	
	R. E. Comp. J. J. Mason,	P. Z.
	" " Wm. Gibson,	P. Z.
	" " J. M. Gibson,	P. Z., Proxy.
No. 76.	Mount Nebo Chapter, Drummondville.	
	M. E. Comp. Jas. Seymour,	P. Z.
No. 77.	Occident Chapter, Toronto.	
	E. Comp. Geo. John Bennett,	H.
	R. E. " Thos. Sargant,	P. Z.
	M. E. " Daniel Spry,	P. Z.
No. 78.	Minnewawa Chapter, Parkhill.	
	R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford,	P. Z., Proxy.
No. 79.	Orient Chapter, Toronto.	
	E. Comp. D. H. Watt,	H.
	E. " A. W. McLachlin,	J.
	E. " J. K. Brydon,	P. H.
	R. E. " Thos. Sargant,	P. Z.
	" " Frank Gallow,	P. Z.
	M. E. " Daniel Spry,	P. Z.

No. 80.	Ark Chapter, Windsor.	
	E. Comp. Joseph Park,	Z.
	E. " W. F. Miller,	H.
No. 81.	Aylmer Chapter, Aylmer.	
	R. E. Comp. Robert Mackay,	P. Z., Proxy.
No. 83.	Ionic Chapter, Orangeville.	
	R. E. Comp. John McLaren,	P. Z.
	" " Thos. Sargant,	P. Z.
No. 85.	Exeter Chapter, Exeter.	
	E. Comp. A. Ellis,	Z., Proxy.
No. 86.	Macpherson Chapter, Meaford.	
	E. Comp. Thomas McCarroll,	Z.
No. 87.	Wentworth Chapter, Dundas.	
	E. Comp. George Chrystal,	H.
	E. " F. F. Dalley,	P. H.
	R. E. " David McLellan,	P. Z.
No. 88.	Macnabb Chapter, Dresden.	
	R. E. Comp. Thos. C. Macnabb,	Z.
	E. " Robert M. Stuart,	P. H.
U. D.	Golden Chapter, Rat Portage.	
	E. Comp. J. K. Brydon,	Z.
	R. E. " F. Gallow,	P. Z.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. HENDRY, JR.,	} Committee.
WM. KERR,	
WM. GIBSON,	

On motion of R. E. Comp. R. Hendry, Jr., seconded by R. E. Comp. Wm. Kerr, the report of the Committee on the Credentials of Representatives was received and adopted.

The M. E. Grand Z. granted permission for the admission of all Royal Arch Masons in good standing during the session of the Grand Chapter as visitors.

The Grand Scribe E. read the Rules and Regulations for the government of Grand Chapter during business.

The Grand Scribe E. commenced to read the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Twenty-fifth Annual Convocation, held in the City of London on the 14th day of July, A. D. 1882, A. I. 2412, when it was moved by R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, seconded by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, and resolved:—

That, as the Proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, held on the 14th day of July, have been printed, and copies thereof sent to all Chapters under this jurisdiction, the recorded Minutes thereof be considered as read, and the same be now confirmed.

The M. E. the Grand Z. then read the following

ADDRESS:

To the Most Excellent the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

GREETING:

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to this our Twenty-sixth Annual Convocation at the capital of our Dominion, to meet around our sacred altar and return thanks to the Great Jehovah for the many blessings we have enjoyed.

As I have looked around year by year at our annual convocations, and observed the number of new faces that each time meet my eye, and how freely they have given their time and talent to bring this Grand Chapter to its present position, I rejoice to know that when we who have borne the burden and heat of the day are ready to depart, there are so many worthy Companions willing and able to take our places in the Chapter.

It gives me much pleasure to report that during the year there has been an uninterrupted continuance of peace and harmony in the working of our subordinate Chapters.

To my knowledge no discord or confusion of any kind has occurred, but fraternal good-fellowship and charity exercised their beneficent sway everywhere in our broad and extending domain.

OUR DEPARTED COMPANIONS.

It is my melancholy duty in the midst of so much that is gratifying and encouraging to invite you, Companions, to pause with me and ponder, and prostrate our hearts in sorrow as the work of the Angel of Death confronts us in the empty chairs of high officials and beloved Companions of our Order, lately deceased, viz: R. E. Comp. W. B. Simpson, P. G. H., and P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Canada; R. E. Comp. Rev. St. G. Caulfeild, P. G. Supt. London District; R. E. Comp. Henry Carlisle, P. G. Supt. Niagara District; and V. E. Comp. W. T. Bray, Master of Veils, and G. J. W. of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

Their memories and their virtues will be embalmed in our memories as we trust their examples will be reflected in our lives. Let us be admonished by their lamented removal to work with all diligence the works of righteousness, for the sun of life hurries toward his setting in the west, and the night cometh when no man can work.

DISPENSATIONS.

On the 6th January, 1883, I granted a Dispensation to the Companions at Rat Portage, North-West Territory, to establish a Chapter to be called "Golden Royal Arch Chapter." The same having been recommended by R. E. Comp. W. G. Scott, Grand Supt. Manitoba District, and from information received said Chapter is progressing favorably under the guardianship of E. Comp. J. K. Brydon.

The minute books of Woodstock Chapter, U. D., Woodstock, N. B., not having been presented at the last Annual Convocation, I continued the Dispensation as requested by Grand Chapter.

I trust the books of the above Chapters will be placed in your hands and prove satisfactory, so that Warrants may be granted.

This year, as in the preceding, I found it expedient to grant several Dispensations to install Principals who had not previously served in the offices which the Constitution requires, having satisfied myself that such Dispensations were necessary in order to enable the Chapters to continue working, and for the better promotion of their internal harmony and well being.

I would at this time recommend that great care be exercised not to increase the number of subordinate Chapters, except where there can be no doubt the prosperity of the Order will be served by so doing. It is far better to have a few good sustained and well attended Chapters within our jurisdiction, than many that are languidly conducted with but little or no interest manifested by the members.

REPRESENTATIVES.

On the 26th July, 1882, I recommended R. E. Comp. Gavin Stewart as representative from the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin to fill the vacancy caused by the death of R. E. Comp. J. M. Meakins. Also, on the 12th October, 1882, I recommended R. E. Comp. D. R. Munro, as representative from the Grand Chapter of Maine, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of R. E. Comp. Rev. St. G. Caulfeild. They have received their commissions, and no doubt they will present them to Grand Chapter.

The above recommendations, I hope, will meet with your approval.

OUR SISTER GRAND CHAPTERS.

It affords me great pleasure to announce, and it must be a source of pleasure to you to know, none but the most fraternal relations exist between this and the other Grand Chapters, with whom we are in correspondence.

BY-LAWS.

The By-laws of several Chapters have been submitted to me for inspection and approval, all of which have been read and carefully examined. In some instances alterations have been made so as to bring them into full accord with the Book of Constitution, but generally they were such as the rules demanded.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

The reports of the several Grand Superintendents will be submitted. These respected officers are in a position from their presence and local knowledge, to report to you the condition of Capitular Masonry in their respective Districts with a distinctness which a general summary would fail to present, and I cordially invite your attention to the interesting details which they furnish for your consideration. I would strongly urge on Grand Superintendents to see that the several Chapters in their respective Districts make their returns to Grand Chapter at the proper time.

GRAND S. E.

Too much value cannot be put upon the painstaking and indefatigable services of this much-esteemed Companion and most efficient officer, and I would respectfully submit that the Grand Chapter should give expression to its appreciation of his fidelity and most worthy services, by voting him an increase of salary in some degree commensurate with his work and his worth.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The report of the Chairman on Foreign Correspondence will be laid before you, from the able pen of R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, who has prepared these reports for the past sixteen years. It needs no comments from me as to his ability, as he has established for himself both far and near a name as an able writer. How many Companions read those reports? I fear that too few take the time necessary to study

them. From his reports we receive a great deal of instruction as to the working of the several Grand Chapters.

FINANCE.

The financial condition of our Grand Chapter is good. Let us endeavor by proper management and wise legislation to keep it so. A detailed statement of the receipts and expenditure will be submitted to you by the G. S. E. and G. Treasurer.

I trust the Committee appointed to organize a scheme on benevolence will be able to report in such a manner as will meet with your approval, as we must never forget that charity is one of the grand principles of our Order.

CONCLUSION.

Companions, the time approaches for me to surrender into your hands the sceptre with which for two years you have so kindly entrusted to me.

My official intercourse with all has been of the happiest character, and will always be cherished as one of the best of my Masonic career.

I now bespeak for my successor a peaceable and fraternal term of office, and that you will extend to him that cordial support and courtesy so cheerfully accorded to me.

As we are now about to enact laws for the general good of the Order, let us bear in mind it is no easy matter to legislate for those who have sent us here, and not forgetting that our laws are not alone for the present, but that they may have an influence for good in the future.

I now cheerfully take my station in the ranks, where I hope to prove, with the experience I have gained, to be a more useful member of our beloved Order than ever, but still determining to advance its interests by every legitimate means in my power.

DONALD ROSS, G. Z.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, seconded by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, and resolved:—

That the address of the M. E. the Grand Z. be referred to the Executive Committee, to report thereon during the present Convocation of Grand Chapter.

The following reports of the various Grand Superintendents of Districts were presented:—

LONDON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In accordance with the established customs of the Order, I beg leave to present my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in this district.

The number of Chapters in this District was thirteen at the commencement of the term of my office, but I found that Erie Chapter, No. 73, had virtually ceased to exist for some time past. The Most Excellent the Grand Z. drew my attention to the fact that no returns had been made from Erie Chapter for some time. I immediately entered into correspondence with some of the most prominent members of that Chapter,—those who had taken a great interest in its organization,—and found that the membership had fallen off by removal to other localities and other causes, that the Chapter could not find members enough to hold a meeting. Port Stanley being a very small village, and not a progressive one at that, its territory was small, being bounded on one side by Lake Erie, and on the other by the city of St. Thomas, it had no territory to draw from, and as a matter of course declined and eventually ceased to exist, and Ex. Companions Major Ellison and McColl, two most enthusiastic Masons, assumed all the liabilities of Erie Chapter, and surrendered the Charter to me, which was duly forwarded by me to Grand Scribe E.

I regret very much that there are other Chapters in the District not working with that vigor so essential to the progress of the Royal Craft, but there is good ground to hope that the langor and lassitude under which they are at present laboring will soon pass away, and restoration to their former vigor be permanently established. The life and vitality displayed by the sister Chapters in this District cannot but have a beneficial effect on their system, for it affords me much pleasure to state that I have visited officially a number of Chapters, where the earnest desire of the officers and Companions seem to be the delineation of the several parts of our beautiful ceremonies in as impressive and perfect manner as it possibly can be done.

During my term of office this year, I have had the pleasure and privilege of installing the officers of St. George's Chapter, No. 5, London; Palestine Chapter, No. 54, St. Thomas; and Alymer Chapter, No. 81. Also, intended to be present at the installation of the officers of Wawanosh Chapter, Sarnia, but falling on the same night as Alymer, I could not be at both places at the same time, but my subsequent visit to that Chapter was a source of great pleasure; the admirable manner in which the business of the evening was conducted is worthy of imitation, and is a guarantee of their success in the future.

My official career has not been marked by any brilliant achievements in the cause of Royal Arch Masonry, but still I have the satisfaction of knowing that a calm and peaceful serenity has pervaded the whole District, not one cause of complaint, not one question to solve. What a happy state for some? But a ruffling of the waters would have been more in accordance with my nature to give some zest to the office, to show there was interest enough taken to dispute some points in question, and create a spirit of emulation in acquiring a thorough knowledge of the grand principals underlying the mysteries of our Royal Craft.

In conclusion, I beg to tender my sincere thanks to all the Companions in the District, whose kindness and courtesy have made my term of office one of great pleasure to me.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ROBERT MACKAY,
Grand Superintendent, London District.

St. Thomas, July 2nd, 1883.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, of Canada.

I herewith submit my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Wellington District for the past year, and regret to state that very little advance has been made in the Royal Craft in this District for some years past. Waterloo Chapter, Galt; Guelph Chapter, Guelph; Grand River Chapter, Berlin; and Ionic Chapter, Orangeville, are alive and working satisfactorily and harmoniously; but Elora Chapter, Elora; Saugeen Chapter, Walkerton; and Enterprise Chapter, Harriston, have done nothing for several years.

I hope my successor will have more time to devote to this work than I have had, and will be able to visit all these places and stir up their latent energy and enthusiasm.

I am happy to state that no complaint has been laid before me.

Respectfully submitted.

J. A. LOCKIE,
Grand Superintendent, Wellington District.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Z., Grand Council, Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, of Canada.

I have the honor to submit the following report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Hamilton District :

There are four Chapters in this District, viz. :—

“The Hiram,” No. 2, Hamilton.

“St. John’s,” No. 6, Hamilton.

“St. Clair,” No. 75, Milton.

“Wentworth,” No. 87, Dundas.

I visited the several Chapters officially, and found them all in a very flourishing condition, and all of them conforming to the requirements of this Grand Chapter.

Capitular Masonry in the City of Hamilton, for a number of years past, has been making rapid progress, but at no time has it advanced more rapidly than during the past year. Especially has this been the case with “The Hiram” Chapter, where some thirty were admitted during the term of Ex. Comp. S. E. Townsend’s rule. In order to do this large amount of work, I believe an emergent Convocation was held every month in addition to the regular meetings of the Chapter.

St. John’s Chapter has also had a large increase added to their numbers. The members of this Chapter, at their Annual Convocation in December last, re-elected Ex. Comp. John Malloy, unanimously as Z., in recognition of his faithful services to the Chapter during the preceding years.

St. Clair Chapter, Milton, under the rule of Ex. Comp. Harrison, now P. Z., was in a very prosperous state, and I have no doubt but the same condition will be maintained by its present Z., Ex. Comp. Frazer, who is ably assisted by an energetic staff of officers.

“Wentworth” Chapter, Dundas, is fulfilling the predictions of my predecessor in office, and is making rapid progress. Ex. Comp. Bickford is ably assisted by the Rev. Comp. Crystal, as H., and Ex. Comp. Ireland, as J.; together with Comp. Bennett,—a model Principal Sojourner,—and a full staff of well qualified officers. There are a large number of Hamilton Companions charter members of this young Chapter, who attend with as great regularity as they do their own Chapters at home, and who take a very great interest in its affairs. Under its present auspices nothing but success can attend it.

In January last a District Chapter was convened in the City of Hamilton, at which the officers of the several Chapters of the District were installed.

I was ably assisted upon that occasion by R. E. Comps. Murton, Stewart, Brierley, J. M. Gibson, McPhie and Munro; and also V. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, and E. Comps. Pain, Townsend and Gwyn. Each took a part of the beautiful installation service, making it one of the pleasantest installations held in Hamilton for some time past.

At this meeting the officers and members of “The Hiram” Chapter presented R. E. Comp. Munro, and E. Comp. Townsend, with a very handsome tea service each, in recognition of their long and valuable services to Royal Arch Masonry. Neither were the officers and members of St. John’s Chapter unmindful of the many positions of trust which V. E. Comp. W. G. Reid has so ably filled, not only whilst in office, but since he left the chair of Z. in St. John’s Chapter. In fact, he has been a constant help to the Chapter ever since he became a member. His Companions, therefore, presented him with a very elegant and costly jewel of a Past Z., with suitable inscription thereon. May these Companions live long to enjoy the gifts so worthily bestowed upon them.

No complaints have been made to me during my term of office. Peace and harmony prevails throughout the District.

I intended to call a District Chapter of instruction, for the purpose of exemplifying the work, but as the whole of the Chapters of this District were conforming to the regulations of the Grand Chapter, and doing it well, I did not deem it necessary to hold such a meeting.

Before closing this brief report, I desire to return my warmest thanks to the several officers and Companions who accompanied me on my official visits, and to the Companions, generally, of the whole District, for their kindness and courtesy towards me in my official capacity during my term of office, and trust that the same will be extended to my successor.

Fraternally submitted,

WM. GIBSON,

Grand Superintendent, Hamilton District.

Beamsville Quarries, July 4th, 1883.

HURON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, G. R. C.

In presenting this, my report, of the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Huron District, I regret to say that I have been unable to pay that attention to my office which it so worthily deserves, from circumstances which could not be avoided. I have been unable to visit all the Chapters, as I fully intended doing.

However, I have had considerable correspondence with most of them, and, judging from reports received by me, I am proud to say that "everything" seems prosperous, and all are doing very well (with only one exception), viz.:—St. James', No. 46. In regard to this Chapter I, after considerable correspondence and personal interviews with many of the Companions, think it would be advisable to allow them another year if at all possible, when, I believe, it will

fall into *line* again; and I trust, and believe, my successor in office will be able to procure so desirable a result, I would earnestly recommend another year's *grace*.

I regret to state that our V. E. Comp. W. T. Bray, of Wingham, *departed this life* on the 17th of September, 1882. He was an enthusiastic Companion, and one whom Wingham Chapter will sadly miss. I was present with him at his last moments; he spoke of the Companions up to the last. A very large number of the Companions attended his funeral to pay the last sad rites. Our Past Most E. Z., (M. W. Bro. Spry, and many of the officers being present), conducted the ceremony on that sad occasion.

Article No. 80, "Book of Constitution," has been generally complied with.

I have much pleasure in stating that the removal of Seaforth Chapter, No. 66, to Clinton, was a good move. I visited them and witnessed their working, which was very ably conducted by E. Comp. Malloch. They are in good working order, and progressing nicely. Their success is assured.

In fact, the reports from all are very encouraging, and where all are doing so well it will be unnecessary to particularize. Everything has worked in harmony. Several questions "*re* work" has been received and duly answered. No difficulties arising that I know of (with the exception of our loss in the departure of many of our Companions to the great North-west.)

I granted in all three (3) "Dispensations;" two (2) to attend "Divine Worship," viz.:—To Seaforth Chapter, No. 66, Clinton; to Havelock Chapter, No. 63, Kincardine; one (1) to Exeter Chapter, No. 85, Exeter, for the purpose of attending a Masonic *Conversazione*, all of which, I think, will be for the benefit of said Chapters. The latter one

being recommended by my predecessor, R. E. Comp. Tomes, who still continues to work for the good of the Chapters throughout the District.

This District being the only one in Grand Chapter without a proper regalia for the Grand Superintendent, I wrote to all the Chapters in regard to the same, and kindly acknowledge a suitable quota from the following, viz.:—"Tecumseh," No. 24; "Huron," No. 30; "Havelock," No. 63; "Seaforth," No. 66; "Shuniah," No. 82; the others not having complied with the request. There not being sufficient received, I *will hold* the funds, and place them in the hands of my successor in office, whom, I trust, before meeting of next Grand Chapter, will be fully equipped.

I beg to return my sincere thanks to the Most E. Z., and R. E. Comp. Grand Scribe E., for their kind assistance and information.

And finally, Companions, I regret that I will be unable to perform the duties of the office as they ought to be done, but trust my successor in office will be more able and more successful in performing said duties.

I also tender my thanks to the Companions of Huron District for the many acts of kindness shown to me during my term.

Fraternally,

GEORGE J. WAUGH,
Grand Superintendent, Huron District.

Stratford, July 27th, 1883.

TORONTO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent Grand Z., Grand Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

As directed by the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Canada, I have the honor of submitting my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Toronto District, for the year 1882-3.

I have had the pleasure of visiting each of the twelve Chapters in this District, and beg to report the result of my observations, as follows:

ST. ANDREW AND ST. JOHN, NO. 4, TORONTO.

On the evening of the 19th January, 1883, I visited this Chapter officially, and assisted by V. E. Comp. Erskine, P. Z., installed the officers.

E. Comp. Seymour Porter, Z., filling the chair for the second year.

I found the books well kept and the Chapter prosperous as far as members and finances were concerned, but have to regret the little interest apparently taken by the Companions of the Chapter in its success, as evinced by the paucity of the numbers attending the regular Convocations.

There was no work done on this occasion, but I know from experience gained during former visits, that E. Comp. Porter is a zealous and well-skilled Mason, and that he is ably supported by his principal officers.

The number of the members on the roll of the Chapter is 90, the average attendance at its convocations but 11. The assets of the Chapter amount to \$731.70; the liabilities to \$55.75; the amount of dues owing on the date of my visit to \$150.00. The property of the Chapter is insured.

KING SOLOMON'S, NO. 8, TORONTO.

On the 18th December, 1882, I was present officially at the election of officers of this Chapter; the ballot for each office being nearly unanimous.

This is the largest, and one of the most prosperous Chapters financially, in the District, but the attendance of Companions on ordinary occasions is lamentably small, the average being but 15 out of a membership of over 120.

There was no work done on the occasion of my visit, but I found the books had been well kept.

The assets of the Chapter amount to \$2,200.00; liabilities, none.

The amount of dues owing was \$102.00. The property of the Chapter is insured.

MANITOU, NO. 27, COLLINGWOOD.

I had the pleasure of visiting this Chapter on the regular convocation of April 6th, 1883, and was most hospitably entertained, but had no opportunity of seeing any work; indeed, I find but little has been done by the Chapter for some considerable time past.

The Minutes have been only moderately well kept, but its financial condition is sound, the assets amounting to \$397.00, with no liabilities. The amount of dues owing at the time of my visit was \$37.62. The average attendance of members is 10 out of a membership of 27. The property of the Chapter is insured.

I had the pleasure of meeting on this occasion with R. E. Comp. H. Robertson, P. G. J.; R. E. Comp. E. R. Carpenter, P. G. Supt.; and V. E. Comp. Nettleton, all of whom are members of this Chapter.

SIGNET, NO. 34. BARRIE.

On the 5th June last I officially visited this Chapter, and witnessed work in the four degrees of M. M., P. M., M. E. M., and Holy Royal Arch. I regret to say I was unable to compliment the Chapter either on the manner in which the work was performed or the books kept, but from the known ability of some of the officers for the present year, amongst whom are V. E. Comp. Bosanko, V. E. Comp. Stevenson, and E. Comp. Saunders. I have confidence that there will be a great improvement in the near future.

I was unable to ascertain the amount of assets, liabilities, and dues owing. The average attendance is 9 out of a mem-

bership of 53. Five names have been added to the roll since the visit of my predecessor.

There was no insurance on the Chapter property at the time of my visit, but I was assured by the 1st Principal that a policy would be taken out to cover any loss that might occur.

SEYMOUR, NO. 38, BRADFORD.

On the 24th November last I officially visited this Chapter, but had no opportunity of witnessing any work.

I inspected the books and found them well kept. The assets of the Chapter amounted to \$372.00, with no liabilities. Amount of dues owing, \$120.00. There had been an average attendance of 12 out of a membership of 33. The property is fully insured.

GEORGIAN, NO. 56, OWEN SOUND.

One of the pleasantest visits during my term of office was paid to this Chapter, on the evening of 21st November last, when I met with a most cordial reception, and witnessed the working of the Royal Arch Degree.

With such officers in the chairs as E. Comp. J. Creasor as Z., E. Comp. R. Notter as H., E. Comp. McLauchlan as J., and E. Comp. Edgar as Principal Soj., it is needless to say that the work was excellently carried out, although not quite in accordance with the standard work. I found the Minutes well kept, and the Chapter financially sound, the assets amounting to \$622.75, with the liabilities under \$50. There had been an average attendance of 13 out of a membership of 32. Five names have been added to the roll up to the time of my visit since the last returns were made.

I was accompanied on this occasion by E. Comp. Watson, P. Z. of Occident Chapter, Toronto, who with myself had every reason to be pleased with the reception accorded us by

the Companions of the Chapter, which has the honor of numbering amongst its members R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, Grand H., who was present on the occasion of our visit.

DORIC, NO. 60, NEWMARKET.

Accompanied by E. Comp. R. Ramsay, I officially visited this Chapter on the evening of the 4th April last, when we received a most cordial reception.

Six candidates received the Mark Master Mason's Degree.

The work was well done by E. Comp. D. W. Mayes. Z., as W. M., but he was but indifferently supported by the other officers. The Minute book was not as well kept as I should like to have found it, but the financial condition of the Chapter was good, the assets amounting to \$313.23, with no liabilities. The average attendance had been 11 out of a membership of 26. The dues owing at the time of my visit amounted to \$72.50. The property of the Chapter is insured.

YORK, NO. 62, EGLINTON.

On the 28th inst., accompanied by the District Secretary, E. Comp. W. S. Robinson, I paid an official visit to this Chapter, but unfortunately, owing to a mistake as to the date of the regular meeting, there was not a quorum of the Companions present to open the Chapter. I had, however, the pleasure of meeting with R. E. Comp. Fisher, P. Z., and the 1st and 3rd Principals and Scribe E. of the Chapter, as well as some other of the Past Principals.

I examined the books, which I found well kept, the Minute book being second to none in the District.

The assets of the Chapter amount to \$300.00, with no liabilities. The dues owing are \$100. The average attendance has been 9 out of a membership of 31. The property of the Chapter is insured.

This Chapter has been laboring under difficulties, owing to the destruction of the Masonic Hall at Eglington by fire, in January, 1882, when it lost its books, furniture, etc. Happily, these were insured, and have now been replaced and the Hall rebuilt, the first meeting of the Chapter in its new abode taking place during the present month.

ONTARIO, NO. 65, YORKVILLE.

With the assistance of V. E. Comps. Blackwood and J. G. Robinson, and E. Comp. H. Fulford, I had the honor of installing the officers of this Chapter on the 17th January last.

There was no other work done on this occasion, but when it is known that M. E. Comp. Menet, P. G. Z., is at present the 1st Principal of the Chapter, no other guarantee as to the excellence of the work is required.

The books of the Chapter are well kept, and its property insured. The assets amount to the sum of \$1 100.00, with no liabilities. The amount of dues owing is \$150.00. There had been up to the time of my visit an average attendance of 11 out of a membership of 37, but I am informed that since M. E. Comp. Menet has assumed the sceptre the average has increased.

OCCIDENT, NO. 77, TORONTO.

On the evening of the 13th November, 1882, I officially visited this Chapter, and witnessed the conferring of the Past Master's Degree, the work being moderately well done. I also inspected the Minute book, which I found well kept. I was unable to ascertain the amount of assets, liabilities, or dues owing. There had been an average attendance of 15 out of a membership of 69. The visiting Companions, as well as myself, were most hospitably entertained by the members of the Chapter.

ORIENT, NO. 79, TORONTO.

I was present officially at the election of officers of this Chapter on the 28th December last, I also inspected the

Minute book of the Chapter, which was not so well kept as I had expected to find it.

The strength of the Chapter at the time of my visit was 73, being a falling off of 6 from the number reported to my predecessor. The average attendance was 14. This Chapter is financially prosperous, the assets amounting to the sum of \$492.27, with liabilities of \$70.00. The amount of dues reported to me as owing was \$162.50. The property of the Chapter is not insured.

MACPHERSON, NO. 86, MEAFORD.

I visited this Chapter officially on the 14th inst., and examined the books, which I found well kept, the Minutes reflecting credit on the Scribe E.

There being no regular work, at my request a lodge of Mark Master Masons was opened, and the work of that Degree exemplified by E. Comp. McCarroll, Z., as W. M., who was ably assisted by E. Comp. Parsons and the other officers, all of whom showed a commendable knowledge of their duties. The financial condition of the Chapter is good, the assets amounting to \$370.00; liabilities, \$105.00; with \$45.00 of dues owing. The property is insured. The number of members on the roll is now 16, being a gain of 2 since the last published returns. The average attendance is 9.

REMARKS AND SUGGESTIONS.

I have much pleasure in stating that on visiting the several Chapters in the District I have on all occasions been received with marked courtesy and deference to the office I have the honor to hold. I have generally, though not always, found the officers attentive to their duties, but regret to state that the attendance of members at the regular convocations has been far short of what it should have been. This lethargy on the part of Royal Arch Masons in the Toronto District has been frequently commented on by my predecessors in office, but no improvement has been made.

I am at a loss to account for this lack of interest, but, as has been suggested before, it may partly arise from the fact that no Companion who has not wielded a gavel in a Craft Lodge is eligible to fill the office of Z. in a Chapter, thus weakening the zeal of many Royal Arch Masons, who see no chance by faithful work of reaching the position of 1st Principal. I think, myself, that if the rule above alluded to was abolished, it would have a good effect, by stimulating the ambition of Companions, and thus ensuring their better attendance at Chapter meetings.

Before ending this portion of my report, I would like to call the attention of the Scribes E. of the various Chapters to the necessity of supplying the Grand Superintendent with a notice of each meeting; and also at the time of the annual election and installation, of notifying him of the names of the new officers. Both these points have been sadly neglected during my term of office, such neglect causing considerable trouble to the District Secretary and myself.

CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.

Early in the year I caused notices to be sent to the various Chapters in the District informing the Companions that I would hold a Chapter of Instruction in the Masonic Hall, Barrie, on Tuesday, the 20th of February, but as afterwards this day was chosen for the nomination of candidates to serve in the Ontario Legislature, I postponed the meeting until the 7th March, when representatives of various Chapters met me at the place originally appointed. I regret to say that the attendance was not nearly so large as I anticipated, but this was chiefly owing to the fact that on the morning of that date one of the most severe storms of the season set in, completely blocking the majority of the roads in the District, the only railroad left open being that from the south, and even on this the Companions coming from Toronto, including myself, were stuck in the snow for five hours.

The Chapter met at 7 p. m., when the work of the Mark Master's Degree was exemplified, V. E. Comp. J. McL: Stevenson, P. Z. of Signet Chapter, No. 34, Barrie, acting as W. M. The Lodge being closed in this degree, a lodge of Past Master Masons was opened, with M. E. Comp. Menet, P. G. Z., as W. M., and the work exemplified.

It had been arranged that work was to be done in the M. E. M. M. Degree, by E. Comp. Seymour Porter, Z., and the officers of St. Andrew and St. John Chapter, No. 4, of Toronto, but late on the evening previous to the assembling of the Chapter of Instruction, I received a note from that Excellent Companion informing me that he had been summoned as a witness in a trial at law, and that he would be unable to attend.

The Degree of the Holy Royal Arch was, by arrangement, to have been exemplified by R. E. Comp. W. H. Porter, and the officers of Seymour Chapter, No. 38, Bradford, but none of them were present at the opening of the proceedings. At a late hour the following telegram was received from R. E. Comp. Porter:—"I have made a mistake in the time of meeting. Fully believed it to be on the 17th inst. instead of the 7th. Regret it very much, as I intended to be present. Too late now to remedy my mistake."

I was honored on the occasion by the presence of M. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, P. G. Z., and M. E. Comp. D. Spry, P. G. Z., and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada. I also received letters from M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, G. Z., R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, G. H., and other distinguished Companions, regretting their inability to be present.

Before closing my remarks on the Chapter of Instruction, I must express my gratitude to the Companions present for their assistance, more especially to M. E. Comps. Menet and Spry, V. E. Comps. Nettleton, Stevenson and Bosanko; E. Comp. Gregory, and last, though not least, the District Sec-

retary, E. Comp. W. S. Robinson, whom I take this opportunity of thanking for his services during the past year.

I also have to thank the officers and companions of Signet Chapter, Barrie, for their hospitable entertainment of the visitors.

DISPENSATIONS.

At the request of the Chapters severally concerned, I, in four instances, recommended to the Grand Z. that he should issue his dispensation to permit certain Companions to be installed as H., without having previously served in the office of J., all of which the M. E. the Grand Z. was graciously pleased to grant.

The following are the Chapters to which his Dispensation was issued:—

King Solomon's, No. 8, Toronto.

Signet, No. 34, Barrie.

Occident, No. 79, Toronto.

Macpherson, No. 86, Meaford.

I also granted the following Dispensations to wear Royal Arch clothing at Masonic festivals to the following Chapters:—

Oct. 31, 1882, to Occident, No. 79, Toronto.

Jan. 22, 1883, to Signet, No. 34, Barrie.

Jan. 22, 1883, to Occident, No. 79, Toronto.

In each case I received the fee as laid down in the Constitution, and transmitted the same to the Grand Scribe E.

CLOSING REMARKS.

In addition to the visits paid in the Toronto District, I had the honor, on the 15th August last, in company with M. E. Comp. D. Spry, P. G. Z. and G. M., of visiting Lebanon Chapter, No. 84, Wingham, and by request, of installing the officers. At the conclusion of the ceremony our late res-

pected Companion, W. T. Bray, Z. of the Chapter, and Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Canada, was installed by M. E. Comp. Spry as Grand Master of Veils of this Grand Chapter. One month later our beloved Companion was admitted within the veil of the Grand Chapter above. No words of mine can add anything to the esteem in which he was held, more especially in the Huron District, where he was best known; and his death leaves a gap hard to fill, both in the ranks of the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chapter of Canada.

On the 14th September, 1882, together with M. E. Comp. C. D. Macdonnell, P. G. Z., and R. E. Comp. E. H. D. Hall, P. G. R., I had the honor of accompanying the M. E. the Grand Z. on an official visit to Victoria Chapter, No. 37, Port Hope, the members of which entertained their guests with Masonic hospitality.

On the 8th January, by request, I visited Havelock Chapter, No. 63, Kincardine, and with the assistance of R. E. Comp. Tamlyn, and E. Comp. Wilson, both of Wingham, installed the officers. E. Comp. H. De Witt Martyn is now the present Z.

I had also the pleasure, in April last, of visiting Corinthian Chapter, Peterboro', and by the request and with the assistance of M. E. Comp. C. D. Macdonnell, P. G. Z., and R. E. Comp. C. Doeblor, Grand Superintendent, of installing the officers for the present year. I have to thank the Companions of this Chapter for their cordial reception and pleasant evening.

In conclusion, I have to report that peace and harmony has prevailed in the Toronto District during my term of office, no complaints of moment having been made to me, nor any questions of importance submitted for my ruling.

In resigning my trust into the hands of my successor in office, I have again to thank the Companions of the Toronto

District for the universal courtesy extended to me, and to assure them that it has always been my desire to fulfil the duties appertaining to the office of Grand Superintendent to the best of my ability, and I trust I have in some small degree succeeded in justifying the confidence they placed in me.

CHARLES W. BROWN,
Grand Superintendent Toronto District.

Toronto, 30th June, 1883.

ONTARIO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In compliance with the Constitution of Grand Chapter, I beg leave to submit my fourth annual report on Royal Arch Masonry in Ontario District for the past year.

During the past year, I have visited all the Chapters in the District, except Excelsior Chapter, No. 45, Colborne, which I must say, is practically dormant. This Chapter has only held one meeting since I took office in 1879, and this meeting was only brought about through great exertion on my part, and was held on the 5th of May, 1881. Since that date no convocation has been held, nor could I get any reply to any of my letters; no returns have been made to Grand Chapter since 31st of January, 1880, and the Chapter was then in arrears to Grand Chapter to the amount of \$13.60. I would recommend Grand Chapter to deal with Excelsior as provided for by clause XC of the Book of Constitution.

I regret that the members of St. John Chapter, No. 48, Cobourg, do not take that interest in the prosperity of the Chapter which they should do. There is a great field for labor and plenty of good material, and by a little exertion on the part of the officers, this Chapter could be the strongest in the District. The work done last year was mostly done by the officers of Victoria Chapter.

Victoria Chapter, No. 37, Port Hope, had the pleasure of having, on the 14th of September, a visit from the M. E. the Grand Z., Donald Ross; M. E. Comp. P. G. Z. Macdonnell; R. E. Comp. C. W. Brown, Grand Supt. Toronto District, and R. E. Comp. E. H. D. Hall, Past Grand Registrar, when three candidates were exalted to the degree of the Holy Royal Arch; and from the remarks made at the closing of the chapter by every one of these distinguished Comps. the work was done to perfection by every one participating in the same.

On the 17th of April, most ably assisted by M. E. Comp. P. G. First Principal Macdonnell, and R. E. Comp. C. W. Brown, G. S. Toronto District, I installed the officers of Corinthian Chapter, No. 36, Peterborough, which is in a prosperous condition, gradually adding to their membership.

Keystone Chapter, No. 35, Whitby, which has begun work again since last meeting of Grand Chapter, will, I trust, not fall back again into its old dormant state, but it will require great energy on the part of the officers to keep it alive.

Pentalpha Chapter, No. 28, Oshawa, which had done nothing for the last two years, I am happy to say, shows signs of life again, and will do some work. I visited this Chapter twice, in order to bring about the above-named result, and installing their officers.

About four years ago, I endeavored to raise funds for the purchase of a regalia for the Grand Superintendent, but only two Chapters responded viz.: Pentalpha Chapter, Oshawa, and Victoria Chapter, Port Hope, each contributing ten dollars; not being able to secure any more funds, I decided to purchase an apron and sash, and although not a complete regalia, it is better than none at all. I trust my successor will be more successful to secure the required amount to complete the regalia, also to procure a seal for the District, which I consider a necessity, to attach to Dispersations and correspondence of importance.

It affords me great pleasure to report that not a single case of Masonic complaint has been laid before me.

I have to express my warmest thanks to the Companions throughout the District for their courteous treatment of me on all occasions.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. DOEBLER,
Grand Superintendent Ontario District.

Port Hope, June 20th, 1883.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent Grand Z., Officers and Excellent Companions of the
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In compliance with the requirements of the Constitution, I beg respectfully to submit my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in this District.

There are four Chapters in this District, viz.:—Moira Chapter, No. 7; St. Mark's Chapter, No. 26; Prince Edward Chapter, No. 31; and Mount Sinai Chapter, No. 44.

Three of these Chapters are in a flourishing and healthy condition. I visited Mount Sinai Chapter and installed the officers, and was pleased to see the life and energy manifested by the officers and companions, which I am happy to state has been crowned with success. I also installed the officers of Prince Edward Chapter, assisted by the M. E. the Grand Z, who is ever willing to give a helping hand to advance the interests of Masonry. This chapter is doing good work. There has been more added to the membership in the last year than there has been for a number of years before.

Not having received any notice of the meetings of Moira Chapter, I could not, of course, visit them, but as M. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, Past Grand Z., occupies the 1st

Principal's chair, I am convinced that under his direction it must be prospering.

With respect to St. Mark's Chapter, No. 26, Trenton, I have written to some of the companions, and they express a desire to reorganize. I learn that the Blue Lodge of that town has not been working very actively for some time back, but have within the last year been doing very much better, I would therefore recommend that the Grand Chapter grant the companions one year more to enable them if possible to overcome their difficulty.

I am happy to state there has not been any complaints laid before me.

JOHN H. MURNEY,

Grand Superintendent Prince Edward District.

Picton, July 9th, 1883.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals, Officers, and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In reporting to you the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Central District, I would state that I have visited as many of the Chapters as I possibly could, and have frequently heard from them.

I installed the officers of Ancient Frontenac Chapter, No. 1, November 16th, 1882. There is not much work in this Chapter, but sufficient to keep them in working order.

Visited Cataraqui Chapter, No. 12, February 5th, 1883, and also May 14th, 1883. On this last date I installed the officers, etc., and find this Chapter presided over by competent officers, and the work creditably done. On this same date the Most Excellent Z. visited this Chapter and was received with fraternal greetings.

Have several times tried to make arrangements for a visit to Carleton Chapter, No. 16, Ottawa, but failed to do so.

Am satisfied this Chapter is ably conducted by their present officers; from the number of notices of meetings and work sent me during the year is sufficient evidence that a great deal of interest is taken in it.

Visited and installed the officers of Grenville Chapter, No. 22, Prescott, Dec. 12th, 1882, and since then have heard that they are progressing in their work. This Chapter was in an awkward position by a number of officers and companions leaving the District, so that permission had to be obtained from the M. E. Grand Z., to elect and instal companions to fill the Principals' chairs.

Pembroke Chapter, No. 58, has not yet made a move to form again. Have written several times, and no reply; and as they have not made returns since January, 1875, really think they do not intend to form again. It is to be regretted, as they have a number of brethren that take a great interest in their lodge.

Sussex Chapter, No. 59, Brockville, has again got into working order. The officers were installed on Wednesday, October 18th, 1882. Was not notified of it until afterwards. They are trying to work up, and no doubt in a short time will succeed.

Granite Chapter, No. 61, although reported to Grand Chapter as having been removed to Almonte, was not completed until June 11th, 1883, on which date I visited and installed the officers, and from the interest manifested on that occasion by the companions, have no doubt the move will be a permanent benefit.

Some little difficulty exists between the officers of Maitland Chapter, No. 68, but no doubt will be brought to a settlement so as not to interfere with the working of the Chapter, but am sorry to say do not hear any favorable accounts of them. Regret I was not able to visit them at the time appointed.

I find that the brethren are branching off into the higher degrees, in different parts of the District, and consequently Royal Arch Masonry is suffering, but these things will occur, and must only urge on the Companions, and especially the Principals, to try and make their meetings more attractive, and not neglect regular attendance; and, above all, let their conduct outside be such that will induce others to copy their example, and by such means draw new material into their ranks.

Granted Dispensations for the Companions of Ancient Frontenac Chapter, No. 1, and Cataraqui, No. 12, to appear in regalia, April 27th, 1883, at a musical entertainment in the city of Kingston; and also a Dispensation for the same Chapters to attend divine service in St. George's Cathedral on the 24th June, 1883, in regalia.

In now taking leave of the Companions of this District, must thank them for the cordial support that has been extended to me on all occasions in my intercourse with them, and trust that harmony and good-fellowship may continue throughout the District.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Yours fraternally,

GEO. M. WILKINSON,
Grand Superintendent Central District.

Kingston, June 26th, 1883.

NEW BRUNSWICK DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent Grand Z., Grand Officers and Companions of the
Grand Chapter of Canada.

I beg to submit the following report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in New Brunswick District:—

In the early part of last July I visited Woodstock, to organize a Chapter under Dispensation, and install the officers,

which I did according to ancient custom; and it gives me pleasure to state that I found a complete set of working tools and paraphernalia, and I have every confidence that Woodstock Chapter will in time be second to none in this jurisdiction.

At the regular meeting in last July, I installed the officers of New Brunswick Chapter, No. 10, and for the past Masonic year the Chapter has been moderately successful, but I anticipate for the coming year a more lively time.

In regard to Saint Mark's Chapter, No. 11, I cannot say much, but they are looking forward to better times, which I trust they may have.

I have not heard directly from Botsford Chapter, No. 39, since my last report, and I am greatly afraid that it will be some time before the Chapter can be reorganized, as the Chapter is poor from the great loss they sustained by fire and water, and I would recommend their case to the most favorable consideration of Grand Chapter.

I am happy to report that no complaints have been made, and that peace and good-fellowship prevails in this Jurisdiction.

Respectfully submitted.

HENRY DUFFELL,

Grand Superintendent New Brunswick District.

Saint John, N. B., July 3rd, 1883.

MANITOBA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., the Right Excellent and Very Excellent the Grand Officers, and Excellent Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of Grand Chapter, I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Manitoba District.

There are at present only two Chapters in this District, viz.:—

Prince Rupert, No. 52, Winnipeg.

Golden, U. D., Rat Portage.

I visited Prince Rupert's Chapter at the regular convocation in May last. This Chapter is in a very prosperous condition, being free of debt, and a balance in the Treasurer's hands of three hundred and fifty dollars. The total number of members on the roll at present is one hundred and twenty-five, average attendance twenty-two. Owing to ill health, E. Comp. C. H. House, Z., was compelled to leave for the South immediately after his installation, but during his absence this Chapter has been skilfully presided over by that energetic and enthusiastic Mason E. Comp. C. F. Forrest, I. P. Z., assisted by E. Comp. H. D. P. LeCappellain, P. Z., and I think I am safe in saying that at no period in its history have the degrees been conferred with greater accuracy in all their details. I examined the books and records, and regret to be compelled to report that they are not a model of taste and accuracy. The Companions who have filled the office of Scribe E. during the past two years have not been as painstaking as natural pride should make them, but I hope this official reminder of delinquencies, will bear good fruit in the future, and that my successor will be able to report more favorably. I understand that an application will soon be made for a Dispensation to form a new Chapter in Winnipeg, which, if granted, the friendly rivalry which I am satisfied will exist, must give an impetus to Royal Arch Masonry in this District.

I received an application for a new Chapter at Rat Portage, Keewatin, to be called Golden Chapter, which the M. E. Grand Z. thought proper to grant a Dispensation for, and on the 15th day of May last, assisted by R. E. Comp. Wm. Brydon, and E. Comp. H. D. P. LeCappellain, I instituted

the Chapter and installed the officers. I received a right Royal welcome from the Companions in that town. Although I have not been able to visit them since, I have learned that they are doing well. This Chapter has an excellent field for its operations. It is under the watchful care of that zealous Mason E. Comp. J. K. Brydon, the officers are all good men, and their ultimate success as a Chapter is certain. I would therefore recommend that a Charter be granted.

In conclusion, and in taking my leave of you as Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Masonry for Manitoba District, I wish to express my warmest thanks to the Companions for the many courtesies extended to me during my term of office.

WM. G. SCOTT,
Grand Superintendent Manitoba District.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE FOR GRANTS OF BENEVOLENCE.

To the M. Ex. the Grand Z., and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

Your Committee appointed to prepare Rules for applications for relief, and for grants from the funds of benevolence, as also for a system of supervision thereof, begs to report that the following shall be the Rules of Grand Chapter:—

1. That Grand Chapter appoint a Committee on Benevolence, consisting of three members of Grand Chapter, who elect among themselves one of their number as chairman, and of whom two shall be a quorum to transact its business.
2. That of the first Committee on Benevolence appointed by Grand Chapter, the one member shall be appointed to hold office for three years, the second for two years, and the third for one year, and all until their respective successors have been duly appointed.
3. That every subsequent year Grand Chapter appoint one

member for said Committee, to hold office for three years and until his successor has been duly appointed.

4. That vacancies in the said Committee by death, resignation or otherwise, are to be filled by Grand Chapter.

5. That if any member of said Committee is absent from any of its meetings, the Most Excellent Grand Z. may appoint any other member of Grand Chapter to take the place of such absent member.

6. That the duties of the Committee on Benevolence shall be:—

a. To meet annually during the week of the Convocation of Grand Chapter, at the place where such Convocation is to be held, and on such day preceding the same as the Chairman of the Committee may name and appoint.

b. To prepare from time to time, subject to the approval of the Grand Chapter, forms for applications for relief, forms for "Returns" by Private Chapters, and for other purposes in connection with their several duties.

c. To carefully examine all applications for relief and all "Returns" made by Private Chapters, and received by that Committee.

d. To award, subject to the approval of Grand Chapter, upon such applications for relief, such sums as grants as they may deem proper to award and to recommend Grand Chapter to grant; or to report such which by them are not deemed worthy of aid; having at the same time due regard to the Masonic principle, that no class distinction be introduced; that equal justice be administered to all applicants for relief, and that the aggregate of the sums so granted in any one year do not exceed the income of the Benevolent fund for the same period.

e. To report to Grand Chapter annually upon all such

applications for relief, upon the sums awarded, upon the applications rejected, and upon all "Returns" by Private Chapters received.

f. To keep proper accounts of all applications for relief, of all grants made thereon, and of all "Returns" by Private Chapters, for ready reference.

7. That all applications for relief must be made upon a printed form, which will be furnished by the Grand Scribe E. when applied for.

8. That it shall be imperative to answer correctly the several questions in such printed form.

9. That applications for relief shall be made through a Private Chapter, signed by the First Principal, and by the Scribe E. thereof, and with the Seal of such Chapter attached; and that in no case shall any such application be made through individual Companions.

10. That all applications for relief shall be sent to and in the hands of the Grand Scribe E. before the first day of July, immediately preceding the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter.

11. That all grants from the funds of benevolence shall be payable in two equal half yearly payments, by an order issued by the Chairman of the Executive Committee, countersigned by the Grand Scribe E., and drawn upon the Grand Treasurer in favor of the grantee and of the First Principal of the Chapter from which the applications for such grant issued, and that it shall require the endorsation upon such order of both the grantee and of the said First Principal before the Grand Treasurer is authorized to honor such order.

12. That all Private Chapters through whose First Principal such orders have been made payable shall, on or

before the fifteenth day of June, immediately preceding the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, prepare and forward to the Grand Scribe E. a "Return" upon a printed form, which will be furnished by the Grand Scribe E. when applied for. That in such "Return" there shall be shown in detail the whole amount of the grant or grants made payable through such First Principal during the current fiscal year, as also the whole amount of such grant or grants paid over to the grantee or grantees during that period, together with such other information as may be required by such printed form of "Return." Such "Return" shall be signed by the First Principal and by the Scribe E. of such Chapter, and have its Seal attached thereto.

13. That no order for any subsequent grant be issued until the said "Return" for preceding grants shall have been received and proved to be correct by said Committee.

14. Provided, nevertheless, that it shall be competent for two or more Private Chapters to form themselves into a Local Board of Relief, and for such Board to elect a Chairman, and a Secretary-Treasurer; and that, when such formation has been approved of by Grand Chapter, all the rights, privileges and duties heretofore conferred or imposed upon a Private Chapter, First Principals and Scribe E., respectively, shall also be respectively conferred and imposed upon such Local Board of Relief, Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer, and that the order mentioned in the Eleventh Rule shall be drawn in favor of the grantee, and of the Secretary-Treasurer of such Board.

All of which is fraternally submitted by

OTTO KLOTZ.	}	Committee.
DANIEL SPRY.		
L. H. HENDERSON.		

On motion of M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, seconded by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, the Reports of the Grand Super-

intendents of Districts were received and referred to the Executive Committee for examination and report thereon.

R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the Report of the Committee, which, on motion of M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, seconded by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, was received, and ordered to be printed as an Appendix to the Proceedings.

R. E. Comp. David McLellan, Grand Scribe E., submitted the annual statement of moneys received during the past year, together with the books, etc. He also submitted the Annual Statement of R. E. Comp. Edward Mitchell, Grand Treasurer, of receipts and disbursements, with vouchers attached.

ANNUAL STATEMENT, JULY, 1883.

DAVID McLELLAN, G. S. E., in account with Grand Chapter.

No. 1—Anc't Frontenac..\$	16 40	Brought forward..\$	1047 90
" 2—The Hiram.....	120 20	No. 57—King Hiram....	7 80
" 3—St. Johns.....	48 80	" 59—Sussex	25 40
" 4—St. Andrew & St.		" 60—Doric	14 40
John.....	30 20	" 61—Granite.....	23 40
" 5—St. George's.....	19 00	" 62—York	7 20
" 6—St. Johns.....	79 30	" 63—Havelock	38 40
" 7—Moir.....	50 60	" 64—Willson.....	6 20
" 8—King Solomon's..	77 40	" 65—Ontario	28 40
" 10—New Brunswick..	65 50	" 66—Seaforth.....	29 80
" 11—St. Mark's	4 40	" 67—Enterprise.....	13 00
" 12—Cataraqui.....	23 60	" 68—Maitland	12 40
" 15—Wawanosh.....	52 40	" 69—Grimsby	9 20
" 16—Carleton.....	23 70	" 70—Grand River....	10 20
" 18—Oxford	12 60	" 74—Beaver.....	7 20
" 19—Mount Moriah...	38 00	" 75—St. Clair.....	14 00
" 20—Mount Horeb....	28 00	" 76—Mount Nebo....	17 00
" 24—Tecumseh	26 20	" 77—Occident.....	3 00
" 26—St. Marks.....	3 80	" 79—Orient	95 60
" 27—Manitou	17 50	" 80—Ark.....	37 00
" 28—Pentalpha	5 00	" 82—Shuniah.....	7 20
" 29—McCallum	35 20	" 83—Ionic	21 90
" 30—Huron.....	9 40	" 84—Lebanon	15 40
" 31—Prince Edward..	15 00	" 85—Exeter	40 00
" 32—Waterloo	11 60	" 86—Macpherson ...	7 20
" 34—Signet	16 60	" 87—Wentworth.....	12 30
" 35—Keystone.....	17 00	U. D.—Woodstock.....	24 40
" 37—Victoria	6 40	U. D.—Golden	45 00
" 38—Seymour.....	35 60	Interest on \$4,500 Domi-	
" 39—Botsford.....	1 00	nion Stock.....	225 00
" 44—Mount Sinai ...	74 20	Interest on \$1,500 Toronto	
" 50—Saugeen	1 20	Land Security Co...	142 50
" 52—Prince Rupert..	30 40	Interest on Bank De-	
" 53—Bruce	17 80	posit.....	87 30
" 54—Palestine.....	33 90		
Carried forward	\$1047 90		\$2075 70

CASH STATEMENT.

1883.	1882.
July 5—To Receipts.....\$2075 70	Oct. 28—By G. Treas....\$ 112 50
	1883.
	Jan'y 3— " " 67 50
	" 10— " " 163 00
	Apr. 14— " " 285 10
	" 30— " " 199 70
	May 23— " " 118 40
	" 25— " " 45 45
	June 7— " " 175 00
	" 26— " " 298 95
	" 30— " " 106 00
	July 3— " " 41 85
	" 4— " " 449 75
	" 5— " " 12 50
<u>\$2075 70</u>	<u>\$2075 70</u>

RECAPITULATION.

Certificates	\$ 484 00
Dues	720 70
Registration Fees.....	292 00
Dispensations	56 00
Constitutions.....	33 20
Ceremonies	35 00
Interest on \$4,500 Dominion Stock.....	225 00
Interest on \$1,500 Toronto Land Securities Co.....	142 50
Interest on Bank Deposits.....	87 30
	<u>\$2075 70</u>

E. MITCHELL, GRAND TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH GRAND CHAPTER R. A. M.

D.R.

C.R.

1882.		1883.		1884.	
July 10—	To Balance as per statement, 8th July.....	\$2,018 44	July 11—	By order No. 166, Rolph Smith & Co.....	\$ 30 00
Oct. 28—	Grand Scribe E.....	112 50	" 20—	" " 173, S. H. Biondheim.....	30 00
Dec. 28—	Interest on Bank account to date.....	45 45	" 24—	" " 170, A. Lawson & Co.....	4 50
Jan. 3—	Grand Scribe E.....	67 50	" 24—	" " 172, Henry Robertson.....	50 00
" 10—	" ".....	163 00	" 25—	" " 171, J. Eastwood & Co.....	6 00
Apr. 14—	" ".....	285 10	Oct. 5—	" " 174, Mrs. T. B. Harris.....	50 00
" 30—	" ".....	199 70	" 5—	" " 175, D. McLellan.....	150 00
May 23—	" ".....	118 40	" 9—	" " 176, J. B. Traves.....	171 36
June 17—	" ".....	175 00	Dec. 7—	" " 177, Rolph Smith & Co.....	30 00
" 23—	Interest on Bank account to date.....	41 85	Jan. 10—	" " 178, Mrs. T. B. Harris.....	50 00
" 28—	Grand Scribe E.....	298 95	" 10—	" " 179, D. McLellan.....	150 00
" 30—	" ".....	106 00	Feb. 23—	" " 180, Rolph Smith & Co.....	59 75
July 4—	" ".....	449 75	Mar. 10—	" " 181, Wm. Bruce.....	10 00
" 5—	" ".....	12 50	" 17—	" " 182, J. B. Traves.....	12 50
			Apr. 12—	" " 183, D. McLellan.....	150 00
			" 16—	" " 184, Mrs. T. B. Harris.....	50 00
			July 4—	" " 186, Mrs. T. B. Harris.....	50 00
			" 4—	" " 187, D. McLellan.....	150 00
			" 5—	" " 188, D. McLellan.....	52 04
			" 5—	" " 185, Rolph Smith & Co.....	30 00
			" 5—	Balance.....	2,807 99
		\$4,094 14			\$4,094 14

ASSETS.

Five per cent. Dominion Stock.....	\$4,500 00
Toronto House Building Association (par value).....	1,500 00
Cash as per Balance.....	2,807 99
	\$8,018 44

E. MITCHELL, Grand Treasurer.

Canadian Bank of Commerce, Hamilton, 5th July, 1883.

We hereby certify that the balance at credit of E. Mitchell, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, in the books of this Branch at close of business at this date is \$2,807.99.

E. MITCHELL, Manager,
H. H. MORRIS, Accountant.

Moved by R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, seconded by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargent, and resolved,—

That the Annual Statements of the Grand S. E. and Grand Treasurer be received and referred to the Executive Committee for audit.

Letters of apology were then read from M. E. Comp. S. B. Harman, P. G. Z.; R. E. Comp. J. K. Kerr, P. G. J.; and R. E. Comp. C. W. Brown, Grand Supt., regretting their inability to be present at this Annual Convocation.

A letter of invitation was then read from Daniel Rose, Chairman of the Invitation Committee of the Semi-Centennial Celebration of the City of Toronto, to be held in that city in the month of June, 1884, requesting the Grand Chapter to hold their Annual Convocation at that time, and take part in the above celebration. The time of holding the Grand Chapter being fixed by Constitution for the month of July, no action was taken further than to request the Grand S. E. to acknowledge the receipt of the communication, and inform the committee that it will be impossible to comply with their request, as the Constitution of Grand Chapter fixes the date of meeting, as above stated.

The Executive Committee beg leave to report as follows, viz:—

WARRANTS.

The Committee on Warrants beg leave to report,—

That they have examined the Minute books of Woodstock Chapter, U. D., Woodstock, N. B., and Golden Royal Arch Chapter, U. D., Rat Portage, Keewatin, and recommend that Warrants be issued for the same.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. C. MACNABB,
Chairman.

Ottawa, July 12th. 1883.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, seconded by R. E. Comp. Thos. Macnabb, and resolved,—

That the Report of the Executive Committee on Warrants be received and adopted.

CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.

To the M. E. the Grand First Principal, Council and Grand Chapter, of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

We, your Committee on the condition of Capitular Masonry, beg respectfully to report,—

That we have examined the reports received from the several Districts.

Two Districts alone making no reports, viz., the Wilson and the Niagara.

We find harmony generally prevailing.

In the Toronto, Hamilton, and Manitoba Districts, Royal Arch Masonry we find more than usually prosperous.

The other Districts are apparently only holding their own.

We find there are quite a number of Chapters apparently dormant, some not having made any report for some years.

These Chapters, unless some effort is made during the present year to place them in proper working order, their Charters should be recalled.

We have to remind S. E.'s of the requirements of Grand Chapter, that they must send the usual summons for Chapter meetings to the G. D. Superintendents.

Only one death is reported, that of V. E. Comp. W. T. Bray, Huron District, who died on the 17th September.

1882. An enthusiastic Companion; may his virtues ever be green in our memories.

One report, New Brunswick, recommends that Chapter No. 39 receive the favorable consideration of Grand Chapter for their loss by fire and water; but give no particulars.

We find that G. D. Superintendents have, as far as practical, visited the various Chapters in the several Districts,

Complaint is made from some Districts that the Chapters therein do not make suitable provision for furnishing regalia for the use of the G. D. Superintendents, which they should do.

We therefore recommend that G. D. Superintendents make it a point of their duty to impress upon Chapters the necessity of keeping their property insured.

And further, suggest that in all cases where the regalia "being the emblem of office" of a District, has become worn out, so as not to make a creditable appearance, the G. D. Superintendent request each Chapter within his District for their proportion towards purchasing a new one.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. FORBES,
Chairman.

Ottawa, July, 1883.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, seconded by R. E. Comp. Wm. Forbes, and resolved,—

That the Report of the Executive Committee on the condition of Capitular Masonry be received and adopted.

AUDIT AND FINANCE REPORT.

The Committee on Audit and Finance beg to report they

have examined the books of the Grand Scribe E., and Grand Treasurer up to July 5th, 1883, and find them correct. The receipts and disbursements for the past year have been as follows :—

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand.....	\$2,018 44
Certificates.....	\$ 484 00
Dues.....	720 70
Registration Fees.....	292 00
Dispensations.....	56 00
Constitutions	33 20
Ceremonies.....	35 00
Interest on \$4,500 Dominion Stock.....	225 00
Interest on \$1,500 Toronto Land Co.....	142 50
Bank Deposits.....	87 30
	2,075 70
	\$4,094 14

DISBURSEMENTS.

Rolph, Smith & Co., for Certificates.....	\$ 149 75
S. H. Blondheim, Benevolence.....	30 00
Mrs. Harris.....	200 00
David McLellan, year's salary.....	600 00
“ “ Incidentals.....	52 04
Lawson & Co., Printing.....	4 50
Report on Foreign Correspondence.....	50 00
Minute Book.....	6 00
J. B. Traves, Printing.....	183 86
W. Bruce, Engrossing Certificate.....	10 00
Cash on Deposits.....	2,807 99
	\$4,094 14

ASSETS.

Dominion Stock, bearing 5 per cent. int..	\$4,500 00
Toronto House Building Association	
Stock, (par value):.....	1,500 00

Cash on Deposit.....	2,807 99	
		\$8,807 99

LIABILITIES.

Regalia Account.....	\$ 334 00
Foreign Correspondence.....	50 00
Mrs. Harris.....	200 00
Grand Scribe E., Salary, \$700; Inci-	
dentals, \$60.....	760 00
Grand Z., for 2 years Disbursements.....	50 00
	\$1,394 00

Your Committee recommend that the President of Executive Board have power to insure the regalia and other property of Grand Chapter in the name of Grand Z. and Grand Treasurer.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAS. B. NIXON, Chairman.	} Finance Committee.
ROBERT HENDRY, JR.	
WM. GIBSON.	

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, seconded by R. E. Comp. Robert Hendry, Jr., and resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on Audit and Finance be received and adopted.

REPORT ON THE GRAND Z.'S ADDRESS.

The Executive Committee have had under their consideration the Address of the Most Excellent the Grand Z., and beg leave to report as follows:—

It is matter for sincere congratulation that concord and good fellowship continue to prevail among the Companions within this jurisdiction, and that the teachings of our noble Order bear fruit in the practice of charity and benevolence. In the same connection it is also gratifying to know that

fraternal relations continue between this Grand Chapter and the foreign Grand Chapters with which we have exchanged representatives and established correspondence. The committee has pleasure in endorsing the recommendation of R. E. Companions Gavin Stewart, and D. R. Munro, as representatives near this Grand Chapter, respectively, of the Grand Chapters of Wisconsin and Maine, and trust that the cordial relations which have so far existed between these Grand Chapters and the Grand Chapter of Canada, may long prevail.

Grand Chapter is called upon to lament the death of an unusually long roll of esteemed and illustrious Companions, who had endeared themselves to us by their virtues, and laid us under obligation for the services they have rendered to the Craft. To their sorrowing relatives we extend our sincerest sympathies, and trust that the chastening hand of the All-Wise Father may bring balm to the wounded hearts of those that mourn, and sustain the afflicted with His mighty power. We recommend that memorial pages be placed in the Proceedings of Grand Chapter to our departed comrades, R. E. Companions W. B. Simpson, Past Grand H. of this Grand Chapter, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada; Rev. St. George Caulfield, Past Grand Superintendent of the London District; Henry Carlisle, Past Grand Superintendent of the Niagara District; and V. E. Companion W. T. Bray, Master of the Veils, and Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

It is of undoubted importance to the welfare of the Craft that proper caution should be exercised regarding the granting of Dispensations for the establishment of new Chapters, and petitions for the organization of these should only be accepted upon satisfactory proof of an urgent need for them, and that there is unquestioned grounds for hope in their success.

The reference of the Most Excellent the Grand Z. to the general care given to the discharge of their duties by the Grand Superintendents of Districts is eminently just. The importance of the office should be borne steadily in remembrance by those who accept the responsibilities of the charge. Much can be done by the zealous and conscientious officer in stimulating prosperous Chapters to greater efficiency, and in sustaining the drooping energies of those which are struggling for existence. Of the latter it is to be feared there are not a few within our jurisdiction, and we have full assurance that during the coming Masonic year they will have special attention at the hands of the Superintendents.

We can heartily concur in the mention made of the services of our esteemed Grand Scribe E. All who have had official relations with him can bear testimony to the care he gives to the discharge of his duties, and his uniform courtesy and attention to all who have a claim upon his services.

It is also just that due recognition should be made of the eminent services rendered to this Grand Chapter, and to Masonic interests generally, by R. E. Companion Henry Robertson, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. During some sixteen years he has prepared an annual Digest of the Proceedings of foreign jurisdictions, in which is presented, in interesting and concise form, a large amount of information of great value to all who are desirous of noting the progress made and work done by those Masonic bodies with which we have intercourse.

Your committee are assured that the interests and honor of Grand Chapter have been carefully guarded by the Most Excellent the Grand Z., and that to his genial and kindly bearing, and judicious attention to the duties of his high

office, the harmony and concord at present existing in Grand Chapter are largely due.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN McLAREN, Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, seconded by R. E. Comp. John McLaren, and resolved,—

That the report of the Executive Committee on the M. E. the Grand Z.'s address, be received and adopted.

In accordance with notice given at the last Annual Convocation, it was then

Moved by R. E. Comp. J. J. Mason, seconded by V. E. Comp. Wm. G. Reid, and resolved,—

That Clause 14 of the Grand Chapter in the Book of Constitution, be amended by adding thereto the following words, viz.:—

“Returns of subordinate Chapters shall be made up to the 31st May in each year, and the financial year of Grand Chapter shall end on the 30th of June.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, the Grand Scribes acting as Scrutineers of the ballot:

The following named Companions were declared duly elected:—

R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, Owen Sound, Grand Z.

“ “ Thos. Sargent, Toronto, “ H.

“ “ Robert Hendry, Jr., Kingston, “ J.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment at 11.20 a. m.

The Grand Chapter resumed labor at 11.30 a. m.

PRESENT.

M. E. Comp.	Donald Ross,	Grand Z.
R. E.	“ Henry Macpherson,	“ H.
“	“ Thos. Sargant,	“ J.

On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

The following Companions were nominated by the Representatives from the respective Districts, and approved by the M. E. Grand Z., as

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	Robert Mackay, St. Thomas,	
	re-elected,	London District.
“	“ C. L. Beard, Woodstock,	Wilson “
V. E.	“ John Scoon, Guelph,	Wellington “
“	“ Wm. G. Reid, Hamilton,	Hamilton “
E.	“ D. McG. Malloch, Clinton,	Huron “
R. E.	“ Wm. Forbes, Grimsby,	Niagara “
“	“ F. Gallow, Toronto,	Toronto “
“	“ Chas. Doeblor, Port Hope,	
	re-elected.	Ontario “
“	“ J. H. Murney, Picton, re-	
	elected.	P. Edward “
E.	“ W. D. Gordon, Kingston,	Central “
R. E.	“ Henry Duffell, St. John, re-	
	elected.	New Brun. “
E.	“ C. F. Forrest, Winnipeg,	Manitoba “

The election of officers was then continued, with the following result:—

R. E. Comp.	David McLellan, Hamilton, re-elected,	G'd S. E.
E.	“ Alex. Patterson, Toronto,	“ S. N.

E. Comp.	S. E. Townsend, Hamilton,	Grand P. Soj.
R. E. "	E. Mitchell,, Hamilton, re-elected,	" Treas.
V. E. "	J. G. Robinson, Toronto,	" Reg.

And by an open vote of Grand Chapter, Comp. J. H. Pritchard, Toronto, Grand Janitor.

M. E. Comp, John H. Graham, P. G. Z., of the Grand Chapter of the Province of Quebec, was then introduced and received with Grand Honors, and invited to a seat in the East.

The following named Companions were elected members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year:—

R. E. Comp.	Henry Robertson	Collingwood.
" "	John McLaren.....	Orangeville.
" "	J. B. Nixon.....	Toronto.
" "	J. J. Mason.....	Hamilton.
" "	John Ross Robertson.....	Toronto.

M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, Past Grand Z., assisted by M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, then proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly elected officers, who were proclaimed and saluted with the customary Masonic honors.

M. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, Grand Z., was then pleased to appoint the following Companions as members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year, viz.:—

R. E. Comp.	A. G. Smyth.....	London.
" "	T. C. Macnabb.....	Chatham.
" "	Wm. Kerr.....	Ottawa.
" "	John Creasor.....	Owen Sound.
" "	Win. Gibson.....	Beamsville.

At a subsequent date the M. E. Grand Z. was pleased to notify the Grand Scribe E. of the following appointments to office for the ensuing year, viz.:—

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

V. E. Comp.	Wm. Smeaton, Picton,	Grand 1st Asst. Soj.
" "	Edwin Plant, Ottawa,	" 2nd "
" "	John Wilson, Simcoe,	" Sword Bea'r.
" "	Wm. Panton, Milton,	" M. of Veils.
" "	H. C. Winch, Peterboro',	" Stan'd Bea'r.
" "	Thos. L.M. Tipton, Dunnville	" Dir. of Cer.
" "	H. D. P. LeCappellain, Win-	
	nipeg,	" Organist.
" "	Samuel R. Moffat, Guelph,	" Pursuivant.
" "	J. D. Shortt, St. John, N.B.	" Steward.
" "	S. S. Clutton, Aylmer,	" "
" "	John Beck, Goderich,	" "
" "	Thos. McCarroll, Meaford,	" "

The M. E. Grand Z. directed that each Companion elected or appointed to office, not having presented himself for installation or investiture, is to be installed or invested in the Chapter of which he is a member.

MOTIONS.

Moved by M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, seconded by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, and resolved,—

That the rank of Past First Principal Z. be conferred on E. Comp. Otto Klötz, of Preston, and that his name be added to the Committee on Benevolence.

Moved by R. E. Comp. John McLaren, seconded by R. E. Comp. Thos. C. Macnabb, and resolved,—

That a committee be appointed to procure and present a suitable testimonial to M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, Past Grand Z., to mark in an appropriate manner our esteem for him, and our appreciation of his valuable services as Grand Z. during the years 1881-2 and 1882-3.

Moved by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, seconded by M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, and resolved,—

That the 2nd and 3rd Principals may have the privilege of conferring the Degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, under the direction of the presiding Principal, who shall administer the obligations.

Moved by R. E. Comp. R. Hendry, Jr., seconded by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, and resolved,—

That the cordial thanks of this Grand Chapter be tendered to the Masonic Hall Board and the Companions of Carleton Chapter, No. 16, of the city of Ottawa, for the excellent arrangements made for the holding of the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, and for the generous hospitality extended to the representatives and visitors.

The M. E. Grand Z. was then pleased to appoint the following Committees:—

SCHEME OF BENEVOLENCE.

E. Comp. Otto Klotz, Preston, Chairman.
 M. E. “ Daniel Spry, Barrie.
 “ “ L. H. Henderson, Belleville.

TESTIMONIAL TO M. E. COMP. DONALD ROSS, PAST GRAND Z.

R. E. Comp. Robt. Hendry, Jr., Kingston, Chairman.
 “ “ J. H. Murney, Picton.
 M. E. “ L. H. Henderson, Belleville.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

The following Notice of Motion for next Annual Convocation was given, viz.:—

By E. Comp. D. H. Watt, Toronto,—

I give notice that at the next Annual Convocation of

Grand Chapter I will move that Clause 65 of the Book of Constitution be amended by striking out the words "unless he be an installed Master or Past Master of a Regular Lodge."

The labors of Grand Chapter being ended, it was closed in *Ample Form*, at 12.40 p. m.



David M. Lellan,
 GRAND SCRIBE E.

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS ACCORDING TO LAST RETURNS RECEIVED.

NO.	NAME.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	FIRST PRINCIPAL Z.	SCRIBE E.
1	Anc't Frontenac	Kingston.....C	Third Tuesday in Feb., May, Aug. & Nov.	W. D. Gordon.....	G. W. Andrews.
2	The Hiram	Hamilton	1st Monday every m'th exc'pt July & Aug	F. F. Dalley.....	W. C. Morton.
3	St. John's	London	Third Wednesday of every month.....	Wm. Hawthorn....	John Siddons.
4	St. And'w & St. J'n	Toronto	Third Friday of every month.....	Seymour Porter...	R. F. Smyth.
5	St. George's.....	London	Third Tuesday of every month.....	Andrew Ellis, jr...	W. R. Browne.
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton	2nd Thurs. every m'th exc'pt July & Aug	John Malloy.....	Arthur Doherty.
7	Moir.....	Belleville...P. E	First Tuesday of every month.....	L. H. Henderson...	A. McGinnis.
8	King Solomon's...	Toronto	Third Monday of every month.....	Alex. Patterson....	Geo. Clarke.
10	New Brunswick..	St. John.....N. B	First Thursday of every month.....	W. H. B. Sadlier...	D. S. Stewart.
11	St. Mark's.....	St. Andrew's N. B	Second Thursday of every month.....	W. D. Hart.....	W. D. Forster.
12	Cataraqui.....	Kingston.....C	Second Monday in Feb., May, Aug. & Nov.	W. Waddington, jr.	W. S. Smyth.
15	Wawanosh.....	Sarnia.....L	Second Friday in Jan., April, July & Oct.	Thos. Ellison.....	J. J. Clement.
16	Carleton	Ottawa	1st Thur. ev'ry m'th, June, July & Aug. ex'd	Edwin Plant.....	W. H. Morgan.
18	Oxford.....	Woodstock...W	First Friday of every month.....	A. W. Francis.....	Jas. Wilson.
19	Mount Moriah ...	St. Catharines. N	Friday on or before f. moon of every m'th	Levi Yale.....	W. Atkin.
20	Mount Horeb	Brantford.....W	First Wednesday of every month.....	David Curtis.....	Robert Morton.
22	Grenville	Prescott.....W	Second Tuesday of every month.....	Wm. Henry Dunn...	M. Dowsley.
23	Ezra.....	Simcoe	Second Wednesday of every month.....	Robert Rochester..	John Wilson.
24	Tecumseh.....	Stratford.....H N	Last Tuesday of every month.....	A. Matheson.....	W. R. Knox.
26	St. Mark's	Trenton....P. E	Second Wednesday of every month.....	No returns.	No returns.
27	Manitou	Collingwood...T	First Friday of every month.....	Frank B. Gregory...	W. R. Anderson.
28	Pentalpha	Oshawa.....O	Second Friday of every month.....	H. B. F. O'Dell...	L. H. Murtion.
29	McCallum.....	Dunnville ....N	Friday on or after f. moon of every m'th	T. L. M. Tipton...	J. S. Amsden.
30	Huron	Goderich.....H N	First Friday of every month.....	R. Radcliffe.....	Alex. McD. Allan.
31	Prince Edward ...	Picton....P. E	Friday on or after every full moon...	Wm. Smeaton.....	Donald Ross.
32	Waterloo.....	Galt.....W N	Monday on or after f. moon of every m'th.	Wm. Cowan.....	James M. Hood.

34	Signet.....	Barrie.....	T First Tuesday of every month.....	C. H. Bosanko.....	B. J. Zimmerman.
35	Keystone.....	Whitby.....	O Third Thursday of every month.....	John Stanton.....	J. H. Addison.
36	Corinthian.....	Peterboro'.....	O Third Tuesday of every month.....	D. Fraser.....	W. H. Casement.
37	Victoria.....	Port Hope.....	Second Thursday of every month.....	Charles Doebler.....	Peter Perry.
38	Seymour.....	Bradford.....	T Friday on or before f. moon of every m'th.....	H. S. Broughton..	Charles Elliott.
39	Botsford.....	Moncton.....	N B Third Monday of every month.....	J. W. Wallace.....	Geo. Ackman.
40	Guelph.....	Guelph.....	Wn Friday on or after every full moon.....	S. R. Moffatt.....	Geo. Anderson, jr.
41	Harris.....	Ingersoll.....	W First Tuesday after f. moon of every m'th.....	C. H. Slawson.....	W. A. Woolson.
44	Mount Sinai.....	Napanee.....	P. E Wednesday after every full moon.....	James Walters.....	J. G. Fennell.
45	Excelsior.....	Colborne.....	O First Thursday of every month.....	No returns.....	No returns.
46	St. James.....	St. Mary's.....	Hn Second Wednesday of every month.....	No returns.....	No returns.
47	Wellington.....	Chatham.....	L Thursday on or before f. mn. every m'th.....	W. H. Sparling....	W. L. Tackaberry.
48	St. John's.....	Cobourg.....	O Friday on or before f. moon every month.....	R. J. Winch.....	Geo. J. Stephens.
49	Elora.....	Elora.....	Wn Wednesday after f. moon every month.....	J. M. Fraser.....	Wm. E. Savage.
50	Saugeen.....	Walkerton.....	Wn Third Tuesday of every month.....	Jos. Craig.....	J. F. H. Gunn.
52	Prince Rupert..	Winnipeg.....	M First Thursday of every month.....	C. H. House.....	Wm. G. Bell.
53	Bruce.....	Petrolia.....	L First Thursday of every month.....	D. Trotter.....	Thos. Cochrane.
54	Palestine.....	St. Thomas...L	L First Tuesday of every month.....	W. E. Idsardi.....	N. W. Ford.
55	Niagara.....	Niagara.....	N Thursday after f. moon of every month.....	Henry Jas. Brown..	Geo. J. Miller.
56	Georgian.....	Owen Sound..O	O First Tuesday of every month.....	Jas. McLauchlan..	D. P. Urquhart...
57	King Hiram.....	Pt. Colborne..N	N First Thursday of every month.....	T. Rae.....	S. R. Cleveland.
58	Pembroke.....	Pembroke.....	C First Monday of every month.....	No returns.....	No returns.
59	Sussex.....	Brockville...C	C Friday on or before f. moon of every m'th.....	Thos. Wilkinson...	Wm. King.
60	Doric.....	Newmarket...T	T First Wednesday of every month.....	D. W. Mayes.....	A M. Hood.
61	Granite.....	Almonte.....	C Second Monday of every month.....	Wm. Smith.....	John Ballantyne.
62	York.....	Eglington...T	T Thursday after f. moon of every month.....	James E. Hopkings	Jno. McCarter.
63	Havelock.....	Kincardine..Hn	Hn First Monday of every month.....	DeWitt H. Martyn.	R. D. Hall.
64	Willson.....	Welland.....	N Last Wednesday of every month.....	J. M. Dunn.....	M. W. Bridgman.
65	Ontario.....	Toronto.....	T Second Wednesday of every month.....	Fred. J Menet.....	Wm. H. Best.
66	Seaforth.....	Clinton.....	Hn Friday before full moon of every month.....	D. McG. Malloch..	M. R. Counter.
67	Enterprise.....	Harriston...Wn	Wn Tuesday after full moon of every month.....	Alex. Michie.....	H. H. Dewar.
68	Maitland.....	Maitland.....C	3rd Thursday in Mar., June, Sept., & Dec	S. Martel Davies...	John Moore.

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.—Continued.

NO.	NAME.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	FIRST PRINCIPAL Z.	SCRIBE E.
69	Grimsby.....	N	1st Wed. in Jan., Mar., May, July, Sep., Dec	Wm. Forbes.....	Robt. Thompson.
70	Grand River.....	W ^N	First Wednesday after full moon.....	H. Hunt.....	Charles Huber.
71	Prince of Wales ..	Amherstburg..L	First Wednesday on or before full moon	W. T. Wilkinson..	Geo. Green.
74	Beaver	Strathroy ....L	Second Tuesday of every month.....	W. H. Grant	James Noble.
75	St. Clair.....	Milton	2nd Wed. in Jan. & alternate months..	J. A. Frazer.....	E. Dixon.
76	Mount Nebo.....	Drummondv ^L .N	First Friday after full moon.....	Anson Garner.....	F. Fischer.
77	Occident	Toronto.....T	Fourth Monday of every month.....	W. Walker	W. J. Turner.
78	Minnewawa.....	Park Hill.....L	Third Wednesday of every month.....	W. D. Grigg.....	W. Cav.
79	Orient	Toronto.....T	Third Wednesday of every month.....	Andrew Park	Lawrence Gibb.
80	Ark.....	Windsor.....L	First Wednesday of every month.....	Joseph Park.....	Thomas Burnie.
81	Aylmer.....	L	Friday on or after f. moon of every m th	S. S. Clutton	J. Connell.
82	Shuniah.....	P. A. Landing. H ^N	Friday on or before full moon.....	A. W. Thompson..	R. E. Mitchell.
83	Ionic.....	Orangeville.. W ^N	Tuesday after full moon of every month	S. H. McKittrick...	Hugh E. Reid.
84	Lebanon	Wingham ....H ^N	First Wednesday of every month.....	.....	James Fleuty.
85	Exeter	Exeter.....H ^N	First Tuesday of every month.....	Richard Seldon....	Charles Senior.
86	Macpherson.....	Meaford	Second Thursday of every month.....	Thos. McCarroll ..	Fred. S. Clarke.
87	Wentworth.....	Dundas	Friday on or after every full moon....	Henry Bickford....	Thomas Seaman.
88	Macnabb	Dresden	Monday after f. moon of every month..	Thos. C. Macnabb..	S. J. Ball.
89	Woodstock	Woodstock...N.B	Third Thursday of every month.....	Ananias McFarlane	Josiah R. Murphy.
90	Golden	Rat Portage..M	Fourth Wednesday of every month.....	John K. Brydon ...	.....

NOTE.—The capital letters on the right of "where held" column indicate the several Districts, viz:—C., Central; H., Hamilton; H^N., Huron; L., London; M., Manitoba; N., Niagara; N. B., New Brunswick; O., Ontario; P. E., Prince Edward; W., Wilson; W^N., Wellington.

BALANCES IN LEDGER, JULY, 1883.

NO.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	WARRANT GRANTED.	NO RETURNS	LAST RETURNS.	AM'T THEN DUE.	CREDIT
1	Ancient Frontenac.....	Kingston.....	A. D. 1795..	.....	Jan. 31, 1883	.....	.....
2	The Hiram.....	Hamilton.....	" 1820..	.....	" "	.....	.....
3	St. John's.....	London.....	" 1844..	.....	" "	.....	.....
4	St. Andrew and St. John.....	Toronto.....	" 1847..	.....	" "	.....	.....
5	St. George's.....	London.....	" 1854..	.....	" "	.....	.....
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton.....	" 1855..	.....	" "	.....	4 00
7	Moirs.....	Belleville.....	" 1856..	.....	" "	.....	.....
8	King Solomon's.....	Toronto.....	" 1857..	.....	" "	.....	.....
10	New Brunswick.....	St. John, N. B.....	Feb. 24, 1859.	.....	" "	.....	10 30
11	St. Mark's.....	St. Andrew, N. B.....	Sept., 1846..	.....	" "	.....	.....
12	Cataraqui.....	Kingston.....	A. D. 1859..	.....	" "	.....	.....
15	Wawanosh.....	Sarnia.....	Feb. 8, 1860	.....	" "	.....	.....
16	Carleton.....	Ottawa.....	" "	.....	" "	.....	.....
18	Oxford.....	Woodstock.....	" "	.....	" "	.....	4 00
19	Mount Moriah.....	St. Catharines.....	Feb. 21, 1861	.....	" "	.....	.....
20	Mount Horeb.....	Brantford.....	" "	.....	" "	.....	.....
22	Grenville.....	Prescott.....	Feb. 20, 1862	.....	" "	.....	.....
23	Ezra.....	Simcoe.....	" "	.....	" 1882	19 60	.....
24	Tecumseh.....	Stratford.....	Aug. 11, 1863	.....	" 1883	.....	.....
26	St. Mark's.....	Trenton.....	Aug. 14, 1866	74-5-6-7-8-9, '80-1-2-3	" 1873	19 00	.....
27	Manitou.....	Collingwood.....	" "	.....	" 1883	.....	.....
28	Pentalpha.....	Oshawa.....	Aug. 13, 1867	1882-83.....	" 1881	.....	.....
29	McCallum.....	Dunnville.....	" "	.....	" 1883	5 10	.....
30	Huron.....	Goderich.....	" "	.....	" "	.....	.....
31	Prince Edward.....	Picton.....	Aug. 11, 1868	.....	" "	.....	.....
32	Waterloo.....	Galt.....	Aug. 11, 1868	.....	" 1883	20	.....

BALANCES IN LEDGER, JULY, 1883.—Continued.

NO.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	WARRANT GRANTED.	NO RETURNS.	LAST RETURN.	AM'T THEN DUE.	CREDIT
34	Signet	Barrie	Aug. 10, 1869	.....	Jan. 31, 1882	.....	9 80
35	Keystone	Whitby	"	1881-82-83	"	1880	9 10
36	Corinthian	Peterboro' .....	"	.....	"	1883	.....
37	Victoria	Port Hope .....	"	.....	"	1 00	.....
38	Seymour	Bradford	Aug. 10, 1870	.....	"	.....	.....
39	Botsford	Moncton, N. B. ....	"	.....	"	1882	.....
40	Guelph	Guelph .....	"	.....	"	1883	.....
41	Harris	Ingersoll .....	"	.....	"	1882	.....
44	Mount Sinai	Napanee	Aug. 9, 1871	.....	"	1883	.....
45	Excelsior	Colborne	"	1881-82-83	"	1880	13 60
46	St. James	St. Mary's	"	74-5-6-7-8-9, '80-1-2-3	"	1873	2 75
47	Wellington	Chatham .....	"	.....	"	1883	.....
48	St. John's	Cobourg	Aug. 14, 1872	.....	"	.....	.....
49	Elora	Elora	"	1882-83	"	1881	1 00
50	Saugeen	Walkerton .....	"	.....	"	1882	15 20
52	Prince Rupert's	Winnipeg .....	"	.....	"	1883	.....
53	Bruce	Petrolia .....	"	.....	"	.....	.....
54	Palestine	St. Thomas	Aug. 13, 1873	.....	"	60	.....
55	Niagara	Niagara .....	"	.....	"	1882	10 60
56	Georgian	Owen Sound .....	"	.....	"	1883	.....
57	King Hiram	Port Colborne	Aug. 14, 1874	.....	"	.....	.....
58	Pembroke	Pembroke	"	1876-7-8-9, '80-1-2-3.	"	1875	10 00
59	Sussex	Brockville .....	"	.....	"	1883	.....
60	Doric	Newmarket .....	"	.....	"	.....	.....
61	Granite	Almonte .....	"	.....	"	.....	.....
62	York	Eglington .....	"	.....	"	.....	.....

63	Havelock.....	Kincardine.....	Aug. 14, 1874	.....	Jan. 31, 1883	.....
64	Willson.....	Welland.....	Aug. 11, 1875	.....	" "	10 00
65	Ontario.....	Toronto.....	" "	.....	" "	.....
66	Seaforth.....	Clinton.....	" "	.....	" "	.....
67	Enterprise.....	Harriston.....	" "	.....	1882	.....
68	Maitland.....	Maitland.....	Aug. 11, 1875	.....	Jan. 31, 1883	.....
69	Grimsby.....	Grimsby.....	" "	.....	" "	.....
70	Grand River.....	Berlin.....	Aug. 9, 1876	.....	" "	.....
71	Prince of Wales.....	Amherstburg.....	" "	.....	" "	.....
74	Beaver.....	Strathroy.....	" "	.....	1883	.....
75	St. Clair.....	Milton.....	" "	.....	" "	.....
76	Mount Nebo.....	Drummondville.....	" "	.....	" "	.....
77	Occident.....	Toronto.....	" "	.....	1882	.....
78	Minnewawa.....	Park Hill.....	Aug. 8, 1877	.....	" "	.....
79	Orient.....	Toronto.....	" "	.....	1883	.....
80	Ark.....	Windsor.....	" "	.....	" "	.....
81	Aylmer.....	Aylmer.....	Aug. 14, 1878	.....	" "	.....
82	Shuniah.....	Pr. Arthur's Landing.....	" "	.....	" "	.....
83	Ionic.....	Orangeville.....	" "	.....	" "	20
84	Lebanon.....	Wingham.....	" "	.....	" "	.....
85	Exeter.....	Exeter.....	Aug. 12, 1879	.....	" "	.....
86	Macpherson.....	Meaford.....	July 16, 1880	.....	" "	.....
87	Wentworth.....	Dundas.....	" "	.....	" "	.....
88	Macnabb.....	Dresden.....	July 14, 1882	.....	" "	.....
89	Woodstock.....	Woodstock, N. B.....	July 13, 1883	.....	" "	.....
90	Golden.....	Rat Portage.....	" "	.....	" "	.....

TABULAR STATEMENT EXTRACTED FROM THE RETURNS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st JANUARY, 1888.

NO.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	No. of Admissions.	No. of Joinings.	Restr'd	With- drawals.	Suspen- sions.	Expel'd	Deaths.	No. of Membrs.
1	Ancient Frontenac.....	Kingston	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47
2	The Hiram	Hamilton	34	.....	.....	6	18	.....	2	186
3	St. John's	London	9	.....	1	.....	4	.....	3	94
4	St. Andrew and St. John.....	Toronto	5	.....	.....	5	3	.....	.....	87
5	St. George's.....	London.....	.....	.....	.....	3	1	.....	2	83
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton	13	1	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	187
7	Moirs.....	Belleville	9	.....	.....	4	3	.....	2	98
8	King Solomon's.....	Toronto	17	1	3	3	1	.....	.....	120
10	New Brunswick.....	St. John, N.B.	4	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	103
11	St. Mark's.....	St. Andrew's, N.B. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17
12	Cataraqui.....	Kingston	2	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	1	78
13	Wawanosh	Sarnia.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	71
16	Carleton	Ottawa	1	1	2	7	4	.....	.....	66
18	Oxford.....	Woodstock	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	38
19	Mount Moriah	St. Catharines.....	8	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	70
20	Mount Horeb	Brantford.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	33
22	Grenville	Prescott.....	4	2	.....	2	1	.....	1	43
23	Ezra.....	Simcoe .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
24	Tecumseh.....	Stratford	4	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	46
26	St. Mark's	Trenton .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26
27	Manitou	Collingwood	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30
28	Pentalpha	Oshawa.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32
29	McCallum	Dunnville	3	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	56
30	Huron	Goderich .....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	47
31	Prince Edward	Pictou.....	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	40

TABULAR STATEMENT EXTRACTED FROM THE RETURNS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST JANUARY, 1883.—Continued.

NO.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	No. of Admissions.	No. of Joinings.	Restr'd	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Expel'd	Deaths.	No. of Members.
68	Maitland	Maitland	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
69	Grimsby	Grimsby	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	26
70	Grand River	Berlin	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	21
71	Prince of Wales	Amherstburg .....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	1	28
74	Beaver	Strathroy .....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	36
75	St. Clair	Milton	3	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	35
76	Mount Nebo	Drummondville	4	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	25
77	Occident	Toronto .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	69
78	Minnewawa	Park Hill	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	24
79	Orient	Toronto	5	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	2	72
80	Ark	Windsor	1	.....	.....	2	4	.....	.....	38
81	Aylmer	Aylmer .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
82	Shuniah	P. Arthur's Landing .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30
83	Ionic	Orangeville	9	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34
84	Lebanon	Wingham	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	32
85	Exeter	Exeter	12	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	29
86	Macpherson	Meaford	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
87	Wentworth	Dundas	4	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	34
88	Macnabb	Dresden	5	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	13
89	Woodstock	Woodstock, N. B.	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
90	Golden	Rat Portage	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
			261	19	9	96	46	0	32	8587

RECAPITULATION.

Number of Chapters on Roll.....	78	Number Withdrawals Reported.....	96
“ Represented in Grand Chapter.....	52	“ Suspensions “.....	46
Registrations Reported.....	261	“ Deaths “.....	32
“ Joinings.....	19	“ Expelled “.....	0
“ Restored.....	9	Total number members on roll of Grand Chapter....	3537
Total amount of Receipts, 1882-83.....		\$2,075 70	

SUSPENSIONS.

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

No. 2.	The Hiram, Hamilton.	
Wm. A. Woolson.		Johnson Boocock.
Jos. Burdett.		J. C. Schoonmaker.
S. H. B. Harris.		Geo. Robinson.
Geo. Smith.		J. W. Healey.
Rev. J. R. Richardson,		Wm. Rodgers.
Chas. F. Petherick.		J. Henderson.
W. F. McMahon.		Wm. Lloyd.
Geo. E. Lumsden.		John A. Stadlemain.
J. J. Smith.		A. G. Robinson.
No. 3.	St. John's, London.	
A. C. Johnston.		J. R. Dixon.
J. N. Elliott.		W. J. L. Homes.
No. 4.	St. Andrew and St. John, Toronto.	
Wm. Mitchell.		Arthur Godfrey.
Geo. Graham.		M. Spragge.
No. 5.	St. George's, London.	
	Michael Kew.	
No. 7.	Moir, Belleville.	
J. H. Dunstan.		John Cox.
W. P. Niles.		
No. 8.	King Solomon's, Toronto.	
	H. R. Corson.	
No. 16.	Carleton, Ottawa.	
Charles Esplin.		L. S. Thompson.
J. J. Radford.		O. C. Wood.
No. 22.	Grenville, Prescott.	
	J. McI. Bates.	
No. 40.	Guelph, Guelph.	
Philip Bisch.		James S. Spiers.
W. Douglas.		J. W. Moyer.
W. McDonald.		
No. 65.	Ontario, Toronto.	
Arthur W. Phippa.		John William Bryan.

RESTORATIONS.

No. 3. St. John's, London.

Wm. H. Taylor.

No. 8. King Solomon's, Toronto.

Rev. V. Clementi. | Robert Lovell.

A. F. Johnson.

No. 16. Carleton, Ottawa.

John Sumner. | H. W. Bennett.

No. 33. Seymour, Bradford.

J. W. H. Wilson. | W. H. Walkem.

No. 44. Mount Sinai, Napanee.

Thos. Bowey.

AT REST.

NAME.	NAME AND NUMBER OF CHAPTER.	DATE.
Henry Orton.....	2, The Hiram.....	March 24, 1882.
Odell Andrew.....	3, St. John's.....	June 1, 1882.
W. H. Taylor.....	3, ".....	Oct. 23, 1882.
W. H. Rook.....	3, ".....	Dec. 28, 1882.
Donald Currie.....	5, St. George's.....	May 16, 1882.
Thomas Winnett....	5, ".....	Jan. 7, 1883.
H. G. Gillespie.....	7, Moira.....	No date.
Addison Vars....	7, ".....	No date.
John Munro.....	12, Cataragui.....	No date.
John McAvoy.....	15, Wawanosh.....	March 24, 1882.
William Ireland....	15, ".....	April 21, 1882.
William J. Totten...	15, ".....	Oct. 20, 1882.
John Linton.....	15, ".....	Dec. 18, 1882.
Robert McWhinnie...	18, Oxford.....	Jan. 18, 1883.
John V. Weniang....	20, Mount Horeb....	June, 1882.
Albert C. Bowen.....	22, Grenville.....	Jan. 3, 1882.
Malcolm McPhail....	30, Huron.....	May 23, 1882.
R. S. Roblin.....	31, Prince Edward....	April 2, 1882.
Thomas Morris.....	32, Waterloo.....	March 31, 1882.
Jesse Martin.....	38, Seymour.....	Sept. 14, 1882.
Wm. Jex.....	48, St. John's.....	Feb. 20, 1882.
John Kennedy.....	60, Doric.....	No date.
W. A. Whyte.....	71, Prince of Wales ..	No date.
W. J. Montgomery..	79, Orient.....	April 10, 1882.
J. H. Fursier.....	79, ".....	1882.
Charles Ritchings....	80, Ark.....	Jan. 2, 1883.
J. P. Vigars.....	82, Shuniah.....	Feb. 6, 1883.



In Memoriam.

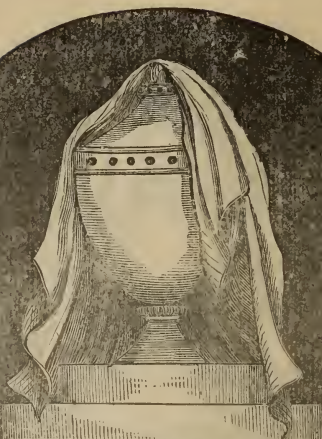
Right Excellent Companion

REV. ST. GEORGE CAULFEILD,

Past Superintendent.
London District.

Died 17th September, A. D. 1882.

AT REST.



In Memoriam.

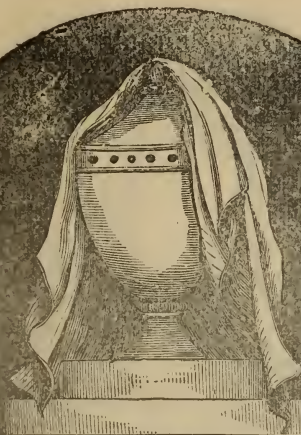
Very Excellent Companion

WILLIAM T. BRAY,

Past Master of Veils.

Died 17th September, A. D. 1882.

AT REST.



In Memoriam.

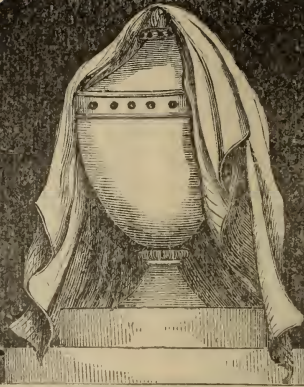
Right Excellent Companion

WM. BENJAMIN SIMPSON,

Past Grand H. Grand Chapter of Canada.
Past Grand Master Grand Lodge
of Canada.

Died 3rd June, A. D. 1883.

AT REST.



In Memoriam.

Right Excellent Companion

HENRY CARLISLE,

Past Grand Superintendent,
Niagara District.

Died 13th December, A. D. 1882.

AT REST.

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER, 1883-4.

M. E. Comp.	H. Macpherson, Owen Sound,	Grand Z.	
R. E.	Thos. Sargent, Toronto,	H.	} Grand Council.
"	Robert Hendry, Jr., Kingston,	J.	
"	Robt. Mackay, St. Thomas,	Gr. Supt.	London District.
"	Chas. L. Beard, Woodstock,	Wilson	"
"	John Scoon, Guelph,	Wellington	"
"	William G. Reid, Hamilton,	Hamilton	"
"	D. McG. Malloch, Clinton,	Huron	"
"	William Forbes, Grimsby,	Niagara	"
"	F. Gallow, Toronto,	Toronto	"
"	Charles Doeblor, Port Hope,	Ontario	"
"	J. H. Murney, Picton,	P. Edward	"
"	W. D. Gordon, Kingston,	Central	"
"	Henry Duffell, St. John's,	New Brun.	"
"	C. F. Forrest, Winnipeg,	Manitoba	"
"	David McLellan, Hamilton,	Grand Scribe	E.
"	Alexander Patterson, Toronto,	"	N.
"	S. E. Townsend, Hamilton,	Principal	Soj'ner.
"	Edward Mitchell, Hamilton,	Treasurer.	
"	J. G. Robinson, Toronto,	Registrar.	
V. E.	Wm. Smeaton, Picton,	1st Asst.	Soj'ner.
"	Edwin Plant, Ottawa,	2nd	" "
"	John Wilson, Simcoe,	Sword Bearer.	
"	Wm. Panton, Milton,	M. of Veils.	
"	H. C. Winch, Peterboro',	Standard Bearer.	
"	Thos. L. M. Tipton, Dunnville,	Dir. of Cer.	
"	H. D. P. LeCappellain, Winnipeg,	Organist.	
"	Samuel R. Moffatt, Guelph,	Pursuivant.	
"	J. D. Shortt, St. John, N. B.,	Steward.	
"	S. S. Clutton, Aylmer,	"	
"	Joseph Beck, Saltford,	"	
"	Thos. McCarroll, Meaford,	"	
"	J. H. Pritchard, Toronto,	Janitor.	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

PRESIDENT :

R. E. Comp. Thomas Sargent, Grand H., Toronto.

M. E. Comp. S. Bickerton Harman, P. G. Z., Toronto.

“ “ C. D. Macdonnell. P. G. Z., Peterboro'.

“ “ James Seymour, P. G. Z., St. Catharines.

“ “ L. H. Henderson, P. G. Z., Belleville.

“ “ Fred J. Menet, P. G. Z., Toronto.

“ “ Daniel Spry, P. G. Z., Barrie.

“ “ Donald Ross, P. G. Z., Picton.

R. E. “ Robert Hendry, Jr., Grand J., Kingston.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp. Robert Mackay, St. Thomas, London District.

“ “ Charles L. Beard, Woodstock, Wilson District.

“ “ John Scoon, Guelph, Wellington District.

“ “ Wm. G. Reid, Hamilton, Hamilton District.

“ “ D. McG. Malloch, Clinton, Huron District.

“ “ Wm. Forbes, Grimsby, Niagara District.

“ “ F. Gallow, Toronto, Toronto District.

“ “ Charles Doeblor, Port Hope, Ontario District.

“ “ J. H. Murney, Picton, Prince Edward District.

“ “ W. D. Gordon, Kingston, Central District.

“ “ Henry Duffell, St. John, New Brunswick District.

“ “ C. F. Forrest, Winnipeg, Manitoba District.

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS.

R. E. Comp. David McLellan, Hamilton, Grand Scribe E.

“ “ Alex. Patterson, Toronto, Grand Scribe N.

ELECTED BY GRAND CHAPTER.

R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, Collingwood.

“ “ J. J. Mason, Hamilton.

“ “ J. B. Nixon, Toronto.

“ “ John McLaren, Orangeville.

“ “ John Ross Robertson, Toronto.

APPOINTED BY THE GRAND Z.

R. E. Comp. A. G. Smyth, London.

“ “ T. C. Macnabb, Chatham.

“ “ Wm. Kerr, Ottawa.

“ “ John Creasor, Owen Sound.

“ “ William Gibson, Beamsville.

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA FROM FOREIGN GRAND CHAPTERS.

Grand Chapters.	Representatives.		Residences.
Alabama,	R. E. Comp.	Isaac F. Toms,	Goderich.
Arkansas,	" "	John McLaren,	Orangeville.
California,	" "	Henry Macpherson,	Owen Sound.
Colorado,	M. E.	L. H. Henderson,	Belleville.
Connecticut,	" "	Donald Ross,	Picton.
Delaware,	R. E.	T. C. Macnabb,	Chatham.
Dist. of Col.,	" "	H. Robertson,	Collingwood.
Florida,	" "	James Moffat,	London.
Georgia,	" "	David McLellan,	Hamilton.
Illinois,	" "	Wm. Forbes,	Grimsby.
Indiana,	M. E.	James Seymour,	St. Catharines.
Iowa,	" "	" "	"
Kansas,	R. E.	J. M. Gibson,	Hamilton.
Kentucky,	" "	Thos. Sargant,	Toronto.
Louisiana,	" "	Edward Mitchell,	Hamilton.
Maine,	" "	D. R. Munro,	St. John, N. B.
Maryland,	" "	J. G. Burns,	Toronto.
Massachusetts,	" "	Jas. A. Henderson,	Kingston.
Minnesota,	M. E.	Fred. J. Menet,	Toronto.
Mississippi,	R. E.	Henry Robertson,	Collingwood.
Missouri,	" "	W. J. B. McLeod Moore,	Laprairie.
Nebraska,	" "	J. Ross Robertson,	Toronto.
New Hampshire.	" "	David McLellan,	Hamilton.
New Jersey,	M. E.	Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
Nevada,	R. E.	J. J. Mason,	Hamilton.
New York,	" "	H. Robertson,	Collingwood.
North Carolina,	" "	Jas. Wilson,	Toronto.
Nova Scotia,	" "	Robt Hendry, jr.,	Kingston.
Ohio,	V. E.	H. A. Mackay,	Hamilton.
Oregon,	R. E.	R. J. Hovenden,	Toronto.
Pennsylvania,	" "	Donald McPhie,	Hamilton.
Quebec,	M. E.	Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
Rhode Island,	V. E.	J. B. Trayes,	Port Hope.
South Carolina,	M. E.	C. D. Macdonnell,	Peterboro'.
Tennessee,	R. E.	Wm. Gibson,	Beamsville.
Texas,	" "	R. Brierley,	Hamilton.
Virginia,	" "	Wm. Brydon,	Rat Portage.
Vermont,	" "	Jas B. Nixon,	Toronto.
West Virginia,	M. E.	S. B. Harman,	Toronto.
Wisconsin,	R. E.	Gavin Stewart,	Hamilton.
Scotland,	" "	J. K. Kerr,	Toronto.
Gr. Mark L'ge of Eng. & Wales,	M. E.	Jas. Seymour,	St. Catharines.

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR FOREIGN GRAND CHAPTERS FROM THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

Grand Chapters.		Representatives	Residences.
Alabama,		E. Comp. Jos. H. Johnson,	Talladega.
Arkansas,		" " Geo. L. Kimball,	Dardanelle.
California,	M. " "	" N. W. Spalding,	Oakland.
Colorado,	" " "	" Benj. T. Wells,	Black Hawk.
Connecticut,	" " "	" W. R. Higby,	Bridgeport.
Delaware,	" " "	" Geo. F. Young,	Wilmington.
Dist. of Columbia,	R. " "	" J. S. McCoy, M.D.,	Washington.
Florida,	M. " "	" Robt. J. Perry,	Key West.
Georgia,	" " "	" W. H. Tuller,	Atlanta.
Illinois,	R. " "	" Jas. H. Miles,	Chicago.
Indiana,	" " "	" E. L. McLallen,	Columbia City.
Iowa,	R. " "	" Jas. W. Wilson,	Newton.
Ireland,	" " "	" J. H. Neilson,	Dublin.
Kansas,	" " "	" Francis Menet,	Lawrence.
Kentucky,	M. " "	" H. R. French,	Mt. Sterling.
Louisiana,	R. " "	" Andrew Hero, jr.,	Delta.
Maine,	M. " "	" Andrew J. Fuller,	Bath.
Maryland,	" " "	" J. M. Carter,	Baltimore.
Massachusetts,	R. " "	" Edwin Wright,	Boston.
Minnesota,	R. " "	" Orville G. Miller,	St. Paul.
Mississippi,	M. " "	" A. H. Barkley,	Crawfordsville.
Missouri,	R. " "	" M. A. Fyke,	Clinton.
Nebraska,	" " "	" H. P. Duel,	Omaha.
New Hampshire,	" " "	" A. Baker,	Lebanon.
New Jersey,	M. " "	" W. H. McIlhaney,	New York.
Nevada,	R. " "	" S. W. Chubbuck,	Gold Hill.
New York,	" " "	" John S. Bowen,	New York.
North Carolina,	" " "	" Chas. C. Clarke,	New Berne.
Nova Scotia,	" " "	" L. F. Darling,	Halifax.
Ohio,	R. " "	" C. A. Woodward,	Cleveland.
Oregon,	" " "	" Donald Mackay,	Portland.
Pennsylvania,	R. " "	" Thos. R. Patton,	Philadelphia.
Quebec,	" " "	" Thos. Milton,	Montreal.
Rhode Island,	" " "	" W. R. Greene,	Providence.
South Carolina,	" " "	" J. M. Bratten, M.D.,	Charleston.
Tennessee,	" " "	" Elihu Edmundson,	Pulaski.
Texas,	" " "	" Henry Scherffius,	Houston.
Virginia,	M. " "	" Geo. W. Dame,	Danville.
Vermont,	R. " "	" Wm. Briesmaid,	Burlington.
West Virginia,	" " "	" Frank Johnson,	Wheeling.
Wisconsin,	M. " "	" R. D. Pulford,	Mineral Point.
Scotland,	R. " "	" The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Kintore.	Carlton Club, London, Eng.
Gr. Mark Lodge of Eng. and Wales.	M. " "	" Frederick Binckes,	London, Eng.

GRAND CHAPTERS AND ADDRESSES OF GRAND OFFICERS.

GRAND CHAPTERS.	GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	GRAND SECRETARIES.	CHAIRMAN COM. CORRESPONDENCE.
Alabama	Lucky Walker, Jenkins	Daniel Sayre, Montgomery	P. J. Pillans, Mobile
Arkansas	John J. Sumpter, Hot Springs	James A. Henry, Little Rock	T. H. Caswell, San Francisco.
California	Leonidas E. Pratt, San Francisco	T. H. Caswell, San Francisco	Henry Robertson, Collingwood.
Canada	Henry Macpherson, Owen Sound	David McLellan, Hamilton	W. A. Hardenbrook, Denver.
Colorado	R. W. Woodbury, Denver	Ed. C. Parnalee, Georgetown	John H. Barlow, Birmingham.
Connecticut	John S. Castle, Waterbury	Joseph K. Wheeler, Hartford	Wm. G. W. Lewis, Middletown.
Delaware	Thomas Davidson, Wilmington	Henry B. McIntyre, Wilmington	N. D. Larner, Washington.
Dist. of Columbia	Jeremiah C. Allen, Washington	L. G. Stephens, Washington	
Florida	W. A. McLean, Jacksonville	DeWitt C. Dawkins, Jacksonville	
Georgia	C. E. Lambden, Barnesville	J. E. Blackshear, Macon	
Illinois	Samuel Shannon, Mt. Carmel	Gilbert W. Barnard, Chicago	T. T. Gurney, Chicago.
Indiana	Albert P. Charles, Seymour	John M. Bramwell, Indianapolis	Albert P. Charles, Seymour.
Iowa	A. C. Sherwood, Marshalltown	W. B. Langridge, Muscatine	H. S. Winslow, Newton.
Ireland	Hon. Judge Townshend	S. B. Oldham, Dublin	
Kansas	Henry M. Waters, Independence	John H. Brown, Wyandotte	John H. Brown, Wyandotte.
Kentucky	Howard R. French, Mt. Sterling	Joseph H. Branham, Louisville	H. Bassett, Millersburg.
Louisiana	James Louis Loddell, Lobdells	J. C. Batchelor, New Orleans	J. P. Horner, New Orleans.
Maine	Frank E. Sleeper, Sabelis	Ira Berry, Portland	Josiah H. Drummond, Portland.
Maryland	Charles V. S. Levy, Frederick	Geo. L. McCahan, Baltimore	E. T. Schultz, Baltimore.
Massachusetts	Albert C. Smith, Boston	Z. H. Thomas, Cambridgeport	John W. Dadmun, Boston.
Michigan	George Hill, Portland	W. P. Innes, Grand Rapids	W. P. Innes, Grand Rapids.
Minnesota	W. J. Hahn, Lake City	A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul	A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul.
Mississippi	B. T. Kinbrough, Ashland	J. L. Power, Jackson	P. M. Savary, Tupelo.
Missouri	A. M. Dockery, Gallatin	Wm. H. Mayo, St. Louis	Wm. H. Mayo, St. Louis.
Nebraska	William H. Munger, Tremont	Wm. R. Bowen, Omaha	E. F. Warren, Nebraska City.

GRAND CHAPTERS AND ADDRESSES OF GRAND OFFICERS.

GRAND CHAPTERS.	GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	GRAND SECRETARIES.	CHAIRMAN COM. CORRESPONDENCE
New Hampshire.	Charles M. Fowle, Concord.	Geo. P. Cleaves, Concord.	Albert S. Wait, Newport.
New Jersey.	Charles L. Chovey, Madison.	Geo. B. Edwards, Jersey City.	Geo. B. Edwards, Jersey City.
Nevada.	Frank Bell, Reno.	John D. Hammond, Carson.	John D. Hammond, Carson.
New York.	Jas. D. Pollard, Seneca Falls.	Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo.	D. A. Ogden, Penn Yan.
North Carolina.	Eugene Grissom, Raleigh.	D. W. Bain, Raleigh.	J. J. Macks, Wilmington.
Nova Scotia.	James Gossip, Halifax.	Geo. T. Smithers, Halifax.	Geo. T. Smithers, Halifax.
Ohio.	Daniel A. Scott, Arkon.	James Nesbitt, Troy.	J. Kelly O'Neill, Lebanon.
Oregon.	James F. Robinson, Eugene.	R. P. Earhart, Salem.	R. P. Earhart, Salem.
Pennsylvania.	Augustus R. Hall, Philadelphia.	Thas E. Meyer, Philadelphia.	Andrew Zane, jr.
Quebec.	H. Luke Robinson, Waterloo.	David Seath, Montreal.	Arthur F. Simpson, Lenoxxville.
Rhode Island.	Samuel G. Stinness, Pawtucket.	Wm. R. Greene, Providence.	G. H. Burnham, Providence.
South Carolina.	R. C. Watt, Laurensville.	J. E. Burke, Charleston.	J. E. Burke, Charleston.
Tennessee.	Jas. D. Richardson, Murfreeson.	John Frizzle, Nashville.	R. M. Elgin, Houston.
Texas.	S. M. Williams, Houston.	Robert Brewster, Houston.	W. B. Isaacs, Richmond.
Virginia.	Geo. R. Atkinson, Smithfield.	W. B. Isaacs, Richmond.	Fred. S. Fisher, St. Johnsury.
Vermont.	Kittredge Haskins, Brattleboro.	W. H. S. Whitcomb, Burlington.	O. S. Long, Wheeling.
West Virginia.	Gustave Brown, Charleston.	O. S. Long, Wheeling.	William C. Swain, Milwaukee.
Wisconsin.	Homer S. Goss, Portage.	John W. Lafin, Milwaukee.	
Gen. Grand Chap.	H. R. H. Prince of Wales.	Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo.	
England.	Rt. Hon. the Earl of Mar & Kellie.	Col. Shadwell H. Clerke.	
Scotland.		Wm. Edwards, Edinburgh.	
G. Mark Lodge of Eng. & Wales.	Lord Henniker.	Fred. Binckes, London, Eng.	

LIST OF CHAPTERS—BY DISTRICTS.

NO. 1—LONDON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. R. Mackay, St. Thomas.		
No. 3, St. John's, London.....	Middlesex	County.
“ 5, St. George's, London.....	“	“
“ 15, Wawanosh, Sarnia.....	Lambton	“
“ 47, Wellington, Chatham.....	Kent	“
“ 53, Bruce, Petrolia.....	Lambton	“
“ 54, Palestine, St. Thomas.....	Elgin	“
“ 71, Prince of Wales, Amherstburg.....	Essex	“
“ 74, Beaver, Strathroy.....	Middlesex	“
“ 78, Minnewawa, Park Hill.....	“	“
“ 80, Ark, Windsor.....	Essex	“
“ 81, Aylmer, Aylmer.....	Elgin	“
“ 88, Macnabb, Dresden.....	Kent	“

NO. 2—WILSON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. C. L. Beard, Woodstock.		
No. 18, Oxford, Woodstock.....	Oxford	County.
“ 20, Mount Horeb, Brantford.....	Brant	“
“ 23, Ezra, Simcoe.....	Norfolk	“
“ 41, Harris, Ingersoll.....	Oxford	“

NO. 3—WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. John Scoon, Guelph.		
No. 32, Waterloo, Galt.....	Waterloo	County.
“ 40, Guelph, Guelph.....	Wellington	“
“ 49, Elora, Elora.....	“	“
“ 50, Saugeen, Walkerton.....	Bruce	“
“ 67, Enterprise, Harriston.....	Wellington	“
“ 70, Grand River, Berlin.....	Waterloo	“
“ 83, Ionic, Orangeville.....	Wellington	“

NO. 4—HAMILTON DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. Wm. G. Reid, Hamilton.		
No. 2, The Hiram, Hamilton.....	Wentworth	County.
“ 6, St. John's, Hamilton.....	“	“
“ 75, St. Clair, Milton.....	Halton	“
“ 87, Wentworth, Dundas.....	Wentworth	“

NO. 5—HURON DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. D. McG. Malloch, Clinton.

No. 21, Tecumseh, Stratford.....	Perth	County.
" 30, Huron, Goderich.....	Huron	"
" 46, St. James', St. Mary's.....	Perth	"
" 63, Havelock, Kincardine.....	Bruce	"
" 66, Seaforth, Clinton.....	Huron	"
" 82, Shuniah, Prince Arthur's Landing.....	Algoma	District.
" 84, Lebanon, Wingham.....	"	"
" 85, Exeter, Exeter.....	Huron	"

NO. 6—NIAGARA DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. Wm. Forbes, Grimsby.

No. 19, Mount Moriah, St. Catharines.....	Lincoln	County.
" 29, McCallum, Dunnville.....	Monck	"
" 55, Niagara, Niagara.....	Niagara	"
" 57, King Hiram, Port Colborne.....	Welland	"
" 64, Willson, Welland.....	"	"
" 69, Grimsby, Grimsby.....	Lincoln	"
" 76, Mount Nebo, Drummondville.....	Welland	"

NO. 7—TORONTO DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. F. Gallow, Toronto.

No. 4, St. Andrew and St. John, Toronto.....	York	County.
" 8, King Solomon's, Toronto.....	"	"
" 27, Manitou, Collingwood.....	Simcoe	"
" 34, Signet, Barrie.....	"	"
" 38, Seymour, Bradford.....	"	"
" 56, Georgian, Owen Sound.....	Grey	"
" 60, Doric, Newmarket.....	York	"
" 62, York, Eglington.....	"	"
" 65, Ontario, Toronto.....	"	"
" 77, Occident, Toronto.....	"	"
" 79, Orient, Toronto.....	"	"
" 86, Macpherson, Meaford.....	Grey	"

NO. 8—ONTARIO DISTRICT.

Grand Dist. Supt.—R. E. Comp. Chas. Doeblor, Port Hope.

No. 28, Pentalpha, Oshawa.....	Ontario	County.
" 35, Keystone, Whitby.....	"	"
" 36, Corinthian, Peterboro'.....	Peterboro'	"
" 37, Victoria, Port Hope.....	Durham	"
" 45, Excelsior, Colborne.....	Northumb'd	"
" 48, St. John's, Cobourg.....	"	"

NO. 9—PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. J. H. Murney, Picton.

No. 7, Moira, Belleville.....	Hastings County.
" 26, St. Mark's, Trenton.....	Trenton "
" 31, Prince Edward, Picton.....	Pr. Edward "
" 44, Mount Sinai, Napanee.....	Lennox "

NO. 10—CENTRAL DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. W. D. Gordon, Kingston.

No. 1. Ancient Frontenac, Kingston.....	Frontenac County.
" 12, Cataraqui, Kingston.....	" "
" 16, Carleton, Ottawa.....	Carleton "
" 22, Grenville, Prescott.....	Grenville "
" 58, Pembroke, Pembroke....	Renfrew "
" 59, Sussex, Brockville.....	Leeds "
" 61, Granite, Almonte.....	Lanark "
" 68, Maitland, Maitland.....	Grenville "

NO. 11—NEW BRUNSWICK DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. Henry Duffell, St. John.

No.10, New Brunswick, St. John.....	St. John, N. B.
" 11, St. Mark's, St. Andrew's.....	St. Andrew's, N. B.
" 39, Botsford, Moncton.....	Westmoreland. "
" 89, Woodstock, Woodstock.....	

NO. 12—MANITOBA DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. C. F. Forrest, Winnipeg.

No.52, Prince Rupert, Winnipeg.....	Manitoba.
" 70, Golden, Rat Portage.....	Keewatin.

1883.

GRAND CHAPTER R. A. M. OF CANADA.

REPORT

—ON—

CORRESPONDENCE,

HENRY ROBERTSON, CHAIRMAN.

*To the Most Excellent Grand Z., and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch
Masons of Canada*

The Report of the Committee on the Correspondence with sister Grand Chapters is herewith submitted. The present is the *sixteenth* annual report prepared by the present committee. Your Committee are glad to be able to announce the continuance of peace and prosperity in almost every jurisdiction. There is no sound of discord, the peaceful work of the Royal Craft is being faithfully carried on, and our relations with other Grand Chapters continue to be of the most fraternal character.

Numerous questions are discussed in the proceedings which we have received, and these will be noticed as we proceed. Differences in practice will be pointed out, improvements may be suggested, and whatever may be thought worthy of note will be mentioned.

To all our Companions who desire to be thoroughly informed on the state of the Craft in other places, these reports have become a necessity. We are not aware how extensively they are read, but we believe that if they were to be discon-

tinued they would be much missed by all true "seekers after light." The meetings of Subordinate Chapters could be made both interesting and instructive by reading some portion of the current report at each meeting, when time would permit, and encouraging the Companions to offer their own views on what would be thus submitted. The extracts which are given are the well-considered utterances of the representative men of each jurisdiction, men who have given great attention to these subjects, and whose opinion is in general entitled to great weight. Most of the reporters have held high offices in the Craft, many of them are Past Grand Masters and Past Grand High Priests, some are Grand Secretaries, and all are thorough devotees of our noble Order. They take a pride in their work, they are instrumental in reconciling differences of opinion and practice and in moulding improved legislation, and they devote their experience and talent to the correction of errors, the cultivation of the truest fraternal relations and the general welfare and elevation of the Institution.

Your Committee have received and attentively examined the proceedings of the following Grand Chapters, thirty-seven in number:—

Alabama	1882
Arkansas	1882
California	1883
Colorado	1882
Connecticut	1883
Delaware	1883
District of Columbia.....	1882
Georgia	1883
Illinois	1882
Indiana	1882
Iowa	1882
Kansas	1883
Kentucky.....	1882
Louisiana	1883
Maine.....	1882
Maryland	1882
Massachusetts	1882
Michigan	1883
Minnesota.....	1882

Mississippi.....	1883
Missouri	1883
Nebraska	1882
New Hampshire.....	1882
New Jersey.....	1882
New York	1883
North Carolina.....	1882
Ohio	1882
Oregon	1882
Pennsylvania.....	1882
Quebec.....	1883
Scotland.....	1882
South Carolina.....	1882-3
Texas.....	1882
Vermont.....	1883
Virginia	1882
West Virginia.....	1881-2
Wisconsin	1883

ALABAMA.

The Fifty-sixth Annual Convocation was held at Montgomery, December 5th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. L. W. Jenkins, G. H. P.

The Proceedings are very brief, and of no special interest.

We copy the decisions of the Grand High Priest, and the conclusion of his address:—

"1st Question — 'Can we substitute a companion with two candidates to confer the Royal Arch Degree?'

"Answer.—'Yes.'" See edict of the Grand Chapter, Proceedings of 1878.

"Obedience to the resolution passed by the Grand Chapter of 1878 compelled me to render the decision as I did, though believing it to be contrary to the decisions of former Grand High Priests, in violation of the constitutional rules and ancient usages; and utterly irreconcilable with our Ritual. I hope the delegates to the Grand Chapter, who have had ample experience of the awkward working of this rule are prepared to review and revise it.

"2nd Question.—"Can a Chapter refund its fees after conferring the degrees?"

"Answer.—"A Chapter cannot donate or refund the fees without doing violence to the Constitution." (See last clause of Section 5, Article IV, of the Constitution.)

"3rd Question.—"Can a High Priest suffer his Chapter to adopt any subterfuge by which the law can be evaded for the purpose of donating or refunding to a candidate fees for degrees conferred?"

"Answer.—The refunding of such fees, or any portion thereof as have been established by the Grand Chapter, would be violative of the Constitution, at variance with the customs of the Chapters throughout the State, and highly improper. (*See Proceedings 1847*)

"4th Question.—Can a Chapter bury with Masonic honors a Royal Arch Mason who dies in good standing in his Chapter, but is suspended from his Lodge for non-payment of dues?

"Answer.—A Royal Arch Chapter has no place in a funeral procession. The Masonic burial is peculiarly the business of the Lodge, and hence cannot be performed by the Chapter.

"5th Question.—A dispensation is asked for to confer all the degrees at one meeting of the Chapter.

"Answer.—A dispensation is not necessary. The Grand Chapter last year passed an act repealing the edict of 1868, which required candidates to pass examination of their proficiency before they were permitted to advance. Therefore all the degrees can be conferred at one meeting.

"I fear that the repeal of the edict that required candidates to undergo examination will prove to be injurious to our Order. One of the causes of the languishing condition of our Chapters is the non attendance at the regular meetings. If there was work, a degree to

be conferred, the members would take more interest in the proceedings of the Chapters, and give the meetings more attention, and of consequence become more expert and useful craftsmen. When there is work in a Chapter only once or twice during the year, the members become indifferent, inattentive, and in many cases unprofitable to the Order. Every one must admit that when all the degrees are conferred in short order at one meeting, great injustice is done the candidates who are left ignorant of the lectures. To my mind, thorough instruction in the beginning would be far better for the candidate, and more creditable to the Chapter.

It gives me very great pleasure to report that peace and harmony subsist in the Craft throughout our jurisdiction. As far as my observation goes, our members exemplify by their daily walk the principles taught us in the work and lectures.

"Our annual proceedings show fewer applications for admission into our chapters now than in former years. That is not to be regretted, since nothing could be more detrimental to the true interests of the Order than *popularity*, in its general sense. It is far preferable to have a chosen few who are faithful to the principles and virtues set forth in our Ritual, than to parade long rolls containing names that bring discredit upon the membership, or disorder into the Craft. We cannot be too circumspect. Although good material be, perchance, rejected, let us see to it, that no *bad* be received. Let us guard our beloved Order with jealous vigilance, and labor for it with unabating zeal; feeling that its usefulness is proportionate to its prosperity, and that upon ourselves that prosperity depends; and when, in the last Great Day, our works are brought forth for inspection, they will commend us to the blessed approbation of our Most Excellent Great Grand High Priest above."

The Grand Chapter confirmed all the above decisions.

We allow the use of "substitutes," and find no difficulty or awkwardness resulting therefrom.

The Report on Correspondence is again by Comp. P. J. Pillans. He reviews Canada for 1881 and 1882, and approves of our system of Grand Superintendents, as "unusually useful." He greatly admires the report of Comp. J. Ross Robertson, Grand Superintendent, for its candor, frankness and fearlessness in exposing the errors of the Companions. We copy his excellent conclusion:—

"We congratulate the Craft that though the increase of our members has not been great, yet we have no cause for regret. The various other secret organizations with their endowment plans have for a time had their influence upon our progress, but as the various Masonic organizations have kept their garments unspotted from these ephemera, but have adhered firmly to the landmarks and objects of the Order, so they have still maintained their reputation for useful-

ness, and the light of their fires are again beginning to guide the unwary and lure them from those *ignes fatui*.

"We congratulate the Craft on the maintenance of principle, and still more on the harmony generally prevailing. Various questions which were a short time since esteemed mooted ones no longer trouble the Companions and there seems at present but three which threaten disturbances. These are—

"The effect for non-payment of dues and consequent suspension from the Lodge.

"The position of our G. G. Chapter toward the Grand Chapter of Texas. And

"The effect of the probable course of the G. G. Council.

"This latter may yet prove a disturbing element which may seriously affect Capitular Masonry. Let temperance, moderation and wise counsels prevail, and all will yet be well. The same may be perhaps more emphatically declared in reference to the second."

M. E. Comp. L. W. Jenkins, (Camden,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Daniel Sayre, (Montgomery,) Grand Sec'y.

ARKANSAS.

The Thirty-third Annual Convocation was held at Little Rock, November 24th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. Caleb H. Stone, G. H. P.

He issued one Dispensation for a new Chapter.

The following extract from his address gives a view of the state of Capitular Masonry in that jurisdiction:—

"Before entering upon the subject of my official acts, I will mention one of my *non* acts.

Soon after our last Convocation, I received circulars asking aid from this jurisdiction for the Garfield Memorial Hospital at Washington.

On this subject I took no action.

Though I fully appreciate the sad circumstances of and the National loss in the death of our distinguished Companion—and fully realize the double object in view to be laudable and praiseworthy—still, there are permanent claims on us nearer home. I allude to the establishment of a World's Masonic Hospital, at our renowned sanitarium, Hot Springs. The Masons of Arkansas owe it to the Craft throughout the world—especially the United States—to take the necessary steps for the ultimate erection of such a hospital. It may not be advisable for this Grand Chapter to take action in the matter, but we are all Masons, and perhaps a word here may lead to favorable action in the Grand Lodge. I leave this project, and that of the Garfield Memorial, in the hands of the Grand Chapter.

"It is but a short time since I received copies of Proceedings of other Grand Chapters; and from a limited examination of the same, I find nothing to which I desire to call your particular attention.

"If I have overlooked anything of importance, the Grand Representatives will no doubt bring it to your notice.

"As to Capitular Masonry in Arkansas, I have to acknowledge, as did my illustrious predecessor, that I am not well posted. I have not had the time at my disposal to visit Subordinate Chapters. From all the correspondence received, I am satisfied there is but one main cause of want of interest in, and consequent degeneracy of, Capitular Masonry in Arkansas.

"That is, inefficient officers—especially Secretaries of Subordinate Chapters

"Secretaries do not try to collect dues at the proper time. High Priests do not enforce the By-laws.

"Companions are allowed to become in arrears for dues, until the amount becomes a burden that many are unable to bear. The Chapter gets short of funds, and the Grand Chapter dues are not paid. The Secretary complains that the members do not pay—when, in nine cases out of ten, it is his fault in not notifying them. Every year should witness a complete examination of the financial status of each member with his Chapter.

"If some are found unable to pay dues, and are otherwise worthy members, remit the dues for that year; and if such are at all worthy, they will try to pay next time. Another great trouble is, the officers of many Chapters are not sufficiently instructed in the Ritual to make the meetings of any profit or interest to those who attend; and are totally incapable of conferring the several degrees, as they should be conferred. No Companion should accept office without being fully determined to fulfill his installation vows.

"In assuming the honors, he should be mindful of the duties—the faithful performance of which alone confers the honor."

He also "deems it unnecessary" to detain the Companions with any attempt at oratory, as the audience, though "select, is too small." Perhaps if he had exerted himself to get "posted" on the condition of the Society whose destinies he had the opportunity to control, he would have found ample justification for all the eloquence at his command. A select audience is generally the most appreciative.

The work was exemplified in all the Degrees.

It was decided that Chapters are not required to pay Grand Chapter dues on honorary members.

Also that no honorary member of a Chapter should be allowed to vote or hold office in such Chapter.

Also that only one substitute should be used in exalting candidates under any circumstances.

M. E. Comp. John J. Sumpter, (Hot Springs,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. James A. Henry, (Little Rock,) G. Sec'y.

CALIFORNIA.

The twenty-ninth Annual Convocation was held at San Francisco, April 10th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. William M. Petrie, G. H. P.

He reports the Royal Art as unusually prosperous in his jurisdiction. The past year was one of remarkable growth among the different Chapters, the increase in their numbers being something phenomenal, but the material furnished has been of the very highest order. Part of this increase is due to the desire of many to attain the Orders of Knighthood before the meeting of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, which will be held in San Francisco in September next.

He issued Dispensations for four new Chapters.

He recommends the appointment of a Committee to revise the Constitution, and to collate the decisions of his predecessors.

The report on Correspondence is by the Grand Secretary. It is placed in the body of the Proceedings, and not in an appendix. He believes that the report on Correspondence is the peer, in dignity and importance of that of any other Committee, and that it is entitled to its proper place in the Proceedings, and should not be ignominiously consigned to the back of the book, among the graves and the tombstones, and the still more gloomy tables of members and statistics.

Canada for 1882, receives a good notice. He is especially pleased with the report of Comp. J. Ross Robertson.

Under Illinois, he says:—

“We print these items in order that our Companions may note the difference in the method of transacting business between California and Illinois. Here, the failure of a Chapter to make its annual returns, accompanied by its dues, is an incident that seldom occurs. The annual returns are made sufficiently in advance of the Annual Convocation for the Grand Secretary to examine and compare them,

and, if faulty, to return them for correction. High Priests and Secretaries have sufficient intelligence to understand that their appended autographs are necessary to the validity of the reports, and should a Secretary place upon his returns the 'seal of a Notary Public,' he would be forthwith committed to the lunatic asylum at Stockton. Every Chapter in California is required to keep what we term a roll book; that is, a book in which the names of all the members are alphabetically entered, showing the date of their reception of the several degrees, age and occupation; or in case of affiliates, the name and number of the Chapter of which they last were members, also the date of affiliation, and in separate columns the date of suspension for non-payment of dues, of suspension for unmasonic conduct, expulsion, dimit or death, as the case may be, with a margin for general remarks. By this means we preserve a complete record of every Royal Arch Mason who is a member of a Chapter in California, and if any information is desired as to his status in the Order, one glance at the roll book supplies it."

He has advanced views on the theory of the prerogatives of the Grand Master. His opinions will not be generally accepted now, but the time will come when, on this continent, at least, it will be universally held that the Grand Master or Grand High Priest, or the presiding officer of any other Masonic body, has no other powers or prerogatives than those conferred on him by the Constitution governing the entire body. Absolute despotism in any shape is entirely unsuited to the genius and temperament of the age in which we live.

"The presiding officer of any constitutional body, Masonic or otherwise, possesses no powers or prerogatives not granted to him by the Constitution under which he holds his office. Before the day of written Constitutions, Grand Masters enjoyed certain rights and prerogatives universally conceded to them by the Craft; but when written Constitutions were adopted, the Grand Master was as firmly bound by their provisions as the humblest member of the fraternity. The Constitution clearly expresses his powers and duties, and beyond them he may not go. The doctrine of the divine right of Kings and Grand Masters has long since become obsolete in all civilized communities. In an absolute Monarchy, the power of the Sovereign is Supreme; even life and death are in his hands; but when the form of government is changed from an absolute to a constitutional monarchy, the Sovereign as well as the subject is restrained within the bounds of constitutional provisions."

He believes, as we do, that it is in the lodge that the real duties of Masonry are performed, and that the real interests of Masonry would not suffer if there were neither Chapters, Councils or Commanderies. "The benefits which accrue or

have accrued to 'Blue Masonry' from Chapter or Commandery are hard to be discovered; but if there are any, these bodies have done no more than their duty, for upon 'Blue Masonry' their very existence depends."

The following report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, was adopted:—

"The question is asked and referred to your committee, 'Is a written objection, made by a Companion who is unavoidably absent from the meeting at which a ballot is to be taken and dated prior thereto, sufficient reason for declaring the candidate rejected?'"

"In the important matter of receiving material into Royal Arch fellowship, the utmost care should be exercised, and every facility given for the fullest expression of the opinions of those who have not only the privilege, but whose duty it is to weigh carefully and judge of the merits of petitions for this Masonic distinction. Your committee are of the opinion, that in a case such as stated in the question submitted, the High Priest should give the objection such consideration as to postpone the ballot, and if the objection is not formally withdrawn at a subsequent session, it is his duty to declare the candidate rejected."

A distinguished visitor was present in the person of Comp. Theodore S. Parvin, Past Grand High Priest of Iowa, who was received with all the honors due to his rank and services.

M. E. Comp. Leonidas E. Pratt, (San Francisco,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. Thomas H. Caswell, (San Francisco,) G. Sec'y.

COLORADO.

The eighth Annual Convocation was held at Denver, September 21, 1882.

M. E. Comp. Roger W. Woodbury, G. H. P.

In his address, he says:—

"We have to congratulate ourselves that the Order is doing well in this State, but whether it be due to good management or to the flourishing condition and increase of the people is for you to determine in your own hearts. I sincerely hope it is not all due to the latter cause; but that the officers of the several Chapters have exercised the talents which God has given them, to leave the trusts con-

fided to their care in better condition than when they assumed them. If this is not the case, then they can claim no credit, for although perfection can be reached by none, the road to it is a highway free to all. It is beautified with the records of those who have led their commands towards the goal; and if yours are found there, my Companions, you have planted your banners where they will serve as noble guides to those who come after you. If they are not, you may be obliged to admit that having received and enjoyed the highest honors in your Chapter, yet its declining stage was inaugurated by you; and to some Companion in the future will be assigned the task of redemption. I trust there are none whose hearts accuse them of neglect, and I may say that I believe, as well as trust, so. And I trust, too, that the universal rule in our beloved State may be that each High Priest of a Chapter shall leave it better than he found it. There are unmistakable indices of character that will enable you to decide if a Companion is or is not likely to do this, and in case of doubt you should award the Chapter the benefit of the doubt. Experiments are costly. Success depends upon your wisdom in selecting presiding officers of your Chapters. The position is of far more responsibility than that of Grand High Priest. Good High Priests govern their Chapters so correctly and so wisely, that the Grand High Priest has little to do except enjoy the honors of his station.

"This is true to a greater extent in Colorado than in most jurisdictions, for this reason:—The Constitution and By-laws of this Grand Chapter confer upon the Grand High Priest authority to do the following-named acts:—To grant letters of Dispensation for the opening of new Chapters; to preside at meetings of the Grand Chapter; to take charge of the property of defunct Chapters; to appoint standing committees; and to report his official acts. These are all the powers I find delegated to the Grand High Priest of this jurisdiction. All others remain vested in the Grand Chapter. Upon the prerogatives of the Grand High Priest I quote the following from our lamented Companion, Dr. Mackey:—

"As the office has been constitutionally created by the Grand Chapter, and did not precede it, as that of Grand Masters did the Grand Lodges, he possesses no inherent prerogatives, but only those which are derived from and delegated to him by the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, and regulations formed under it for the government of Royal Arch Masonry."

"During the year I have endeavored to be governed by these facts; I have declined to grant Dispensations to ballot out of the regular time. I have declined the performance of acts not delegated to the Grand High Priest, except certain requests relating to the installation of officers, and in one case I made an appointment of Grand Representative before noting the fact that there was no authority but custom for it. I am of the opinion that it was never intended to restrict the Grand High Priest to the performance of the duties heretofore enumerated, because it is assumed by many that this officer has powers corresponding to those of the Grand Master. Hence it might not have been thought necessary to specify in detail what he might do. The contrary, however, is the fact, and it was therefore my duty to take the law as I found it, and call your attention to the situation. Then if you desire the Grand High Priest to exercise any functions now vested in the Grand Chapter alone, you should say so plainly. It

may sometime be necessary for him to call special Convocations of the Grand or Subordinate Chapters; or to suspend officers from their functions; to suspend charters, and to do various other matters for the welfare of the Craft, but he has no such authority now.

"Masonry teaches order and obedience to law; and the highest officer of the jurisdiction cannot set an example of breaking it. It has been urged that the Grand Chapter would acquiesce in whatever the Grand High Priest might think it advisable to do, which may be true; but if the Grand High Priest assumes one power he may another, and there is no limit to which he may proceed. The subject is submitted for your consideration."

One new Chapter was organized.

Preparations were made for the proper reception of the General Grand Chapter, which meets in August next at Denver.

The following report and resolution were adopted:—

"Your Committee on Jurisprudence would recommend that the portion of the Address of the M. E. G. H. P. relating to the powers of the M. E. Grand High Priest, be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence for the ensuing Masonic year, with instructions to report Amendments to the Constitution at our next Annual Convocation, specifying in full the particular powers that may be exercised by the M. E. Grand High Priest, by the Deputy Grand High Priest, or by either of them, in this jurisdiction. They also present an Amendment to Article 3rd of the Constitution as bearing on the subject."

"RESOLVED,—That Article 3 of the Constitution be amended by the insertion of another Section following Sec. 1, and before the present Sec. 2, as follows:—

"SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the Grand High Priest to preside at the Convocations of the Grand Chapter, and to discharge all the executive powers of the Grand Chapter in the intervals between them. He shall also have power to appoint representatives of this Grand Chapter near other recognized Grand Chapters, and to receive and accredit representatives of other recognized Grand Chapters near this Grand Chapter."

The report on Correspondence is by Comp. Edward H. Collins. Under the head of Indiana, he says:—

"We heartily agree to the doctrine that a Companion objecting to the further progress of a brother who had been elected to the degrees, and received some of them, ought to be required to state his objections in writing, in order that if substantial they may be made the basis of charges, and if frivolous, they may be overruled."

We have advocated this method of procedure for several years past, and we still think that it should be generally

adopted. It seems to be just and equitable, both to the Companion objecting and the candidate, and both the Lodge and Chapter are equally interested in knowing the reasons why this brother should not be allowed to advance and complete his Masonic instruction. If he is not worthy to receive further light, he is not worthy to remain a member in good standing of his lodge. If there is nothing against his character, he should not be debarred from advancement from any personal grounds, and certainly not on the unsupported objection of one member, who is presumably ashamed or afraid to state the reasons for his objection.

It should also be remembered that a candidate for advancement is a brother, to whom we are all bound by certain ties, and the preservation of his good name is one of our bounden duties.

Comp. Collins concludes his report with well written articles on the Cryptic Degrees, on striking from the rolls for non-payment of dues, and on the status of unaffiliated Masons.

M. E. Comp. Roger W. Woodbury, (Denver,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Ed. C. Parmelee, (Georgetown,) G. Sec'y.

CONNECTICUT.

The eighty-fifth Annual Convocation was held at New Haven, May 8th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. James H. Welsh, G. H. P.

He points out the necessity of a more thorough investigation into the character, qualifications and standing of all petitioners for the Capitular Degrees. The usefulness of the Chapters and the good name of the fraternity depend largely on the character of its members, and honesty and integrity should be the distinguishing marks of the members of the Royal Arch.

The following resolution was adopted:—

"RESOLVED,—That any Companion who may have been, or shall hereafter be stricken from the roll of his Lodge or Chapter for non-payment of dues, shall not be allowed to visit any Chapter in this jurisdiction while under such disability."

The report on Correspondence is by Comp. John H. Barlow, and notices Canada for 1882. In his notice of Maine, he quotes the remarks of Comp. Drummond on delinquency in paying dues, and then says:—

"If Companion Drummond refers to Chapters, we admit the fact, but we think it more the result of fortunate locality than any illustration of the workings of the two systems. In Connecticut the Chapters, with but few exceptions, have no dues, and the dues to the Grand Chapter are but twenty cents for each member; hence there must be few suspensions or deprivation of membership for that cause. We presume such is the case, to a greater or less extent, in most, if not all, the New England Chapters which practice the system he advocates; while in many of those which practice the opposite the Subordinates and Grand Chapter require large amount of dues to support the mileage and per diem system—such luxuries which the former, very properly, we think, dispense with—and as a natural result the higher the dues the greater the delinquency."

In his conclusion, he says:—

"We adhere to the opinions expressed in our report of last year—that the brother or companion who is able to pay his dues, and refuses to do so, or by neglect treats his Lodge and Chapter in silent contempt, should be deprived of all the rights and benefits of Masonry. But let us respect the opinion of those who differ on this subject, and extend to Companions who may temporarily sojourn among us, all the rights and privileges given them by their Grand Chapter, allowing every jurisdiction to decide the status of its own members."

M. E. Comp. John S. Castle, (Waterbury,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Joseph K. Wheeler, (Hartford,) G. Sec'y.

DELAWARE.

The fifteenth Annual Convocation was held at Wilmington, January 17th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. Thomas Davidson, G. H. P.

The past year has been a quiet one for Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction. There is a small increase in membership. The Chapters outside the city have done no work.

He was asked if life memberships may be made by the Subordinate Chapters upon payment of a stipulated amount; and also how an expelled member can regain membership, and he replied as follows:—

“Your communication of 2nd inst. was duly received, and in answer to your question I would say, that while the Grand Chapter is silent on the subject, no Subordinate Chapter whose By-laws do not provide for it, can create life members, unless they amend their By-laws to that effect, and have them approved by the Grand Chapter, or by a regulation of Grand Chapter, the Grand High Priest has not the power within himself to authorize it.”

“A Companion who has been expelled for any offence, can only be re-instated by applying by petition as in the case of a profane, and must have a clear ballot. He need not be compelled to pay any money except the amount due his Chapter from him at the time of his expulsion.”

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented a report of thirty-six pages, Comp. W. G. W. Lewis, Chairman. Canada for 1882, is noticed. He thinks that our last report is an admirable proof of the virtue of a pair of scissors, and he wishes us to give more original matter. He should understand that our native modesty, indigenous to the soil, and carefully cultivated, often prevents us from entertaining our Companions with any long dissertations, and we have an idea that those for whom we write these reports would sooner have good extracts and a condensation of the proceedings than too much of the author. For the last fifteen years we have generally had our say upon all the questions that have appeared in these reports, and we are ready at all times to express our opinions when required.

M. E. Comp. Thomas Davidson, (Wilmington,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Henry B. McIntire, (Wilmington,) G. Sec'y.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The sixteenth Annual Convocation was held at Washington, December 13th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. James P. Pearson, G. H. P.

He reports the Chapters all prosperous, harmonious among themselves, and in their relations to the parent body. We deeply regret the death of Comp. D. S. Jones, Past Grand Scribe, who will be remembered by many of our Canadian Companions as one of the prominent members of the Lafayette Chapter who visited this Grand Chapter at Kingston, in 1873.

The usual system of grand visitations was continued, and addresses delivered by eminent Companions. It is stated that some of the lodges have adopted a plan, which is growing in favor, of dealing with arrears of dues, by either remitting the dues or suspending for non-payment, thus closing the indebtedness of its members and showing a clean sheet at the end of each year.

The Grand High Priest also says:—

“The office of Grand Representative is a highly honorable one, and there should be a greater responsibility attached to it by requiring its holder to make an annual report of his doings as such Representative to the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter from which he is accredited.

“In the infancy of our Grand Chapter it was necessary that such honors should be divided among the few who comprised its membership, but composed, as it now is, of so large and intelligent a body of Companions, I believe that the distribution of representation among the greater number will tend to create a more fraternal feeling, and would, therefore, recommend that a rule be established whereby no Companion of this Grand Chapter shall act as the Representative of more than one Grand Chapter at the same time.

“A communication was received from M. E. Companion Joseph Brummett, stating that he desired to publish a Masonic text book adapted to the use of Craft and Capitular Masons in this jurisdiction, and enclosing a manuscript relating to Capitular degrees, for my approval. As it is an individual enterprise, involving no expense to this Grand Chapter, and feeling that a work of this kind is needed here, I approve of its being published, and have referred the manuscript to the Committee on Work for examination and, if necessary, revision, to correspond with the work adopted and promulgated by this Grand Chapter, with request that they report thereon at this Convocation.”

Comp. Joseph S. McCoy, the Chairman of the Committee on Work, presented the following report:—

“Your Committee on Work have the honor to report that they have

visited the several Chapters of this jurisdiction, and are gratified to be able to announce that the work of the degrees is performed in a creditable manner. The efforts of the officers in that direction merit your most hearty commendation, as, in many instances, the burden of unlearning the old, and the labor incident to an acquisition of the new work had to be sustained by them. Their rendition of the work has demonstrated the success of their endeavors.

"We believe it to be within our province to invite attention to the fact that no uniform standard of proficiency for candidates for advancement in the Capitular degrees exists among the Chapters, and that, in some instances, the information communicated in the course of their advancement is of the most limited character.

"This subject needs your careful consideration.

"It should be our earnest endeavor to incite a spirit of inquiry in our candidates, and stimulate them to a desire for a thorough knowledge of the ritual and symbolism of the Chapter degrees, for in so doing we communicate to them that knowledge which imparts confidence, and that ability to impart to others the knowledge they possess themselves, which must necessarily make them living and prominent factors in all that concerns the well-being and perpetuity of Royal Arch Masonry.

"We shall, at the proper time, in reporting on a matter which has been referred to this Committee, present certain views in connection with this subject, and submit recommendations which, if adopted, we believe will result beneficially to our Chapters and meet the constitutional requirements governing."

The following report from the same Committee was rejected:—

"1. That a Committee on Proficiency be appointed in each Chapter by the Council thereof, whose duty it shall be to instruct and report on the proficiency of candidates prior to advancement.

"2. That a knowledge of the work, up to and including the O. B., shall be deemed suitable proficiency under Section 22, Article V., to warrant advancement to a higher degree."

The officers of the several Subordinate Chapters are thoroughly qualified for their work, and receive high commendations from the Grand Lecturer.

Comp. Larner offered an Amendment to the Constitution, that a Companion suspended from his Lodge for any cause, shall be suspended from his Chapter during the term of his suspension by the Lodge. This was ordered to lie over until the next Semi-Annual Convocation.

Comp. Burton R. Ross was recognized as the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut.

The report on Correspondence is by Comp. Noble D. Larner, and notices our Proceedings for 1882. We copy his conclusion:—

"We have now completed our labors for the year, and submit herewith for your inspection the results, trusting that they may prove satisfactory and be of advantage to our Companions. But few questions of importance have been presented for consideration in the various proceedings which have been received. The proper place for the conferring of the Council degrees has been discussed in many of the reports, but as no new light has been shed on that question, we do not deem it of sufficient importance to claim much attention at the present time. We will, therefore, dismiss the question, with the expression of the opinion that we believe that the conferring of the degrees in the Chapter is just as regular as the conferring of them in an organized Council independent of the Chapter entirely, and that a Council Mason made in either way should be recognized as having been regularly made.

"The question as to the status of a Companion who has been suspended from his Lodge for the non-payment of dues, or for any other cause, has received the attention of most of the writers of reports and Grand High Priests in their addresses, and we are pleased to be able to record the fact that a very large portion of them hold to the doctrine that if a Companion is suspended from his Lodge, *no matter for what cause*, he thereby becomes a Mason *not in good standing*, and should be, by the act of his Lodge, suspended from his Chapter. We have always held this to be the correct doctrine, and believe it not only proper for, but the duty of, the Chapters to act in this matter towards the Lodge as the General Grand Encampment of the United States does towards Lodges and Chapters. It provides, by statute, that when a Templar has been suspended from his Lodge or Chapter *for any cause* he immediately becomes suspended from his Commandery. Although we are sorry to be compelled to say that this statute is not enforced as it should be in our jurisdiction, yet the enactment of the statute by the General Grand Encampment shows that it considers it to be its duty to protect, so far as it may be in its power, the bodies from which it obtains its membership, and we should, by the enactment of a similar statute, endeavor to protect the Lodges of our jurisdiction, from which we obtain our membership. Just here we wish to remark that we hope the present Grand Master of Templars will cause this statute to be strictly enforced, and thereby compel those members of Commanderies who so far forget the duties they owe to their Lodges and Chapters as to allow themselves to be suspended from either for non-payment of dues or any other cause, to regain their good standing in the body or bodies from which they have been suspended, or cease to be members of the Commandery."

M. E. Comp. Jeremiah C. Allen, (No. 1910 R. St. N. W., Washington,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. L. G. Stephens, (Masonic Temple, Washington,) G. Sec'y.

GEORGIA.

The sixty-first Annual Convocation was held at Atlanta, April 25th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. Charles E. Lambdin, G. H. P.

In his address, he says:—

"Masonry was established, my dear Companions, to assist man in this important work. The building of grand, exalted characters is its peculiar and appropriate work. We, as Speculative Masons, are builders in a grander degree than our operative brethren who work with and upon the perishable materials of time and sense alone, for we build imperishable, indestructible temples for the habitation of Jehovah, broad, and wide, and high, ornamented with virtue and benevolence, and overlaid with purity and holiness, refined in the crucible of numberless trials, temptations and afflictions—pure gold from which all the dross of lasciviousness and sensuality, all the lusts and evil desires of the flesh, have been separated." * * *

"Instruction should occupy the time of our Lodges and Chapters; and when this is done, you will find evidence of reviving interest and returning prosperity and enthusiasm springing up, and the membership, once listless and indifferent, and ignorant that Masonry had any claim upon them that had not been met in submitting to the ceremonies of the Order and in paying their dues, will then become earnest enquirers, seeking to become proficient, so as to dispense light and information to their less informed Companions, and to meet all their obligations as men and Masons." * * *

* * * "I am glad to report that in quite a number of our Chapters there are cheering evidences of returning prosperity, many of them having done more work this year than they have done for several years. I am sure if our Companions of the several Chapters will select earnest, enthusiastic officers whose love for the Royal Craft is undoubted, that we shall no longer have to complain of a decline in Masonry, but our Order will again be prosperous. We are upon rising ground now, let us keep moving onward and upward to success."

The Proceedings are very brief, and call for no special comment.

A resolution was adopted to authorize the Grand High Priest to restore all Chapters under suspension on payment of \$50 each.

No report on Correspondence.

M. E. Comp. Chas. E. Lambdin, (Barnesville,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. J. E. Blackshear, (Macon,) G. Sec'y.

ILLINOIS.

The thirty-third Annual Convocation was held at Chicago, October 26th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. John P. Norvell, G. H. P.

He issued five Dispensations for new Chapters.

The returns show an increase over past years in the financial condition of the Chapters, and their condition to be good and harmonious.

In the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence we find the following paragraph, which was adopted:—

“*Second*,—In decision number 1, your Committee are unanimously of opinion that a Companion who has been suspended for non-payment of dues (there being no other charges against him), is upon payment or remission of the dues charged against him, entitled to reinstatement to membership in his Chapter. We find nothing in the Constitution or By-laws of this body which recognizes the right of a Subordinate Chapter to make a suspended Companion, a Royal Arch Mason in good standing, without furnishing him with a suitable Masonic home. * Section 46 of By-laws is sufficiently explicit on this point.”

A resolution to abolish the use of “substitutes” was rejected.

The following was carried:—

“RESOLVED,—That the Committee on Jurisprudence be directed to enquire by what authority the esoteric work of Ancient Craft Masonry, or any portion thereof, is used in Bodies under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, and report thereon at the next Annual Convocation.”

There are 184 Chapters, with a membership of 11,260.

A large amount of local business was transacted.

Full reports were presented by the District Officers, showing that they have faithfully performed their onerous duties.

Comp. Theodore T. Gurney resumes the duties of Correspondent, and presents a capital report. Under “California,” he says:—

"It has never been our misfortune to entertain the opinion that a Mason can be cut off from his rights except opportunity be given for an investigation. The assumption of such powers is not only entirely unnecessary to a Masonic body, but is a biting, blistering reproach upon every principle of *fraternal* government. It is quite true that Grand Bodies may stultify Masonry by hugging the wretched trunk of despotism, but we most emphatically and unreservedly deny that *Freemasonry* is a tyranny.

"Further on he says to Companion Drummond: 'It is true that Pennsylvania and California have systems of their own, and these systems have been endorsed by many other jurisdictions. At any rate, we do not propose to aid, foster, and encourage a horde of Masonic leaches;' referring, of course, to the practice of Maine in suspending from lodge membership for non-payment of dues. We have exhausted the space at our disposal upon this subject, and will only add, that when the jurisdictions mentioned learn, if they will, that Masonic charity is a personal duty or obligation; that lodges, in this regard, are simply the representatives of members, and governed by the same law that is found in every principal degree, in Lodge, Chapter, and Commandery; they will find that there never could be a 'Masonic leach' if Masons gave heed to the statute. There is not a member of the fraternity in good, equivocal, or without standing, that can insist, as a law of the institution, that he can *command* consideration in the matter of relief. Then why talk of leaches? If there are those among us, they are our own creations, because of our want of knowledge of the fundamental principles of Masonic charity. Upon this subject Companion Caswell appears to battle with a phantom. If there is not any law that determines that you *shall* feed a scalawag, in or out of Masonry, why grip your purse with such fearful tenacity? Stir up the subject as much as we will, dollars come to the surface of the controversy. No 'leaches,' no fight. Is this not true?"

He dissents from the "unnatural" proposition that an installed officer cannot resign. The reason which has been given for the doctrine that an officer cannot resign, is that at his installation he takes a solemn declaration that he will perform the duties of his office during the term for which he was elected and until the installation of his successor. It is said that to allow an officer to resign would be to allow a violation of an obligation. In this view of the case, would it not be well to alter the installation ceremony and thus avoid the difficulty? There does not seem to be any good reason why an officer should not be allowed to resign. Very frequently it happens that an officer removes to some other jurisdiction, where, of course, it is impossible that he can perform the duties of his office, and in such a case, we pre-

sume that some of the sticklers will argue that he has violated his installation obligation. We do not suppose that this obligation is binding, or that any obligation is binding under circumstances which render it impossible of fulfilment. We believe that an officer should be allowed to resign, or to obtain his demit, just the same as any other member, and if the ceremony of installation interferes with this privilege, then the ceremony should be altered.

Our Proceedings for 1881, receive a very good notice. On the formation of new Chapters, he says:—

“The Grand Z. does not report the organization of new chapters. It is a gratification to know that the unfortunate precedents of the past are giving way to a more conservative policy in this regard. If masonry is to be cheapened, and made the common property of the crowd, there is not a more certain method of accomplishing the end than to plant lodges and chapters at every cross-road. Children are a good thing, but too many, under one roof, without reasonable provision for the future, does not reflect credit upon that class of industry.”

He then quotes with approval the remarks of Comp. Chas. Doeblor, Grand Superintendent of Ontario District, on the same subject.

In noticing the number of dormant Chapters, he “has a growing conviction that the only remedy for this condition of things is to make territorial jurisdictions of constituent bodies concurrent.” We suppose that this means that every subordinate Chapter in the State has jurisdiction over the whole State. If so, we would like Comp. Gurney to explain it more fully. We understand that in Great Britain the American doctrine of jurisdiction is not known, that Chapters take in members regardless of their place of residence, but on this continent that each subordinate should have and not exceed its own jurisdiction seems to have become a cardinal principle. If it is to be altered as to the Commandery, why not as to the Chapter or Lodge, and then how is the character of the candidate to be properly investigated. We wait for more light in this important matter.

On the subject of suspensions, we may inform Comp. Gurney that our constitution now provides that a mason suspended or expelled from his lodge for unmasonic conduct, if he is a Royal Arch Mason, is thereby suspended or expelled from his Chapter.

In the notice of Delaware, Comp. Gurney says:—

“In his review of Minnesota, he says:—‘We do not favor any *new* ritual, or any amendment to the *old*.’ This reminds us of an early experience in the lodge. Twenty-eight years ago we represented a lodge in the Grand Lodge of New York. The year previous a committee had been appointed (a dozen or so old Masons from every part of the State) to report the ‘old work.’ They came together, and such a time! One would rehearse and the others would growl dissent. For a whole day we listened to those patriarchs of the fraternity only to learn that neither the committee, or other persons present, could agree one with the other. If Companion Lewis can tell what the original ritual is (no gammon) thousands of the Royal Craft of both hemispheres will rejoice.”

We fully agree with the following remarks on the use of “substitutes,” which we find in his review of Iowa:—

“Companion T. R. Ercanbrack made an unsuccessful attempt to rescind the regulation prohibiting ‘substitutes.’ It is very remarkable that Grand Chapters will insist upon a practice that finds no warrant in a rational estimate of the needs of, or fundamental ideas upon which the institution rests. Why not, with equal propriety, say that particular sections of the degree shall be withheld till nine, or ‘three times three,’ shall be advanced to a particular point in the ceremonial. One would, in our opinion, be quite as sensible as the other. It is one of those whims that have found a resting-place, without having any foundation in the natural laws of the fraternity. It answers the purpose, however, of paralyzing many chapters, without serving a good design *in any* direction.”

Also, the following:—

“Non-payment of dues, *per se*, is not an offense, neither does it become a violation, of obligation, (judicially the fact) until proceedings are instituted and concluded. We do not have any more right to say that a member is guilty of a violation of his obligation, because he neglects, as we suppose, to pay dues, than we have to say that a member shall be punished for larceny, till a lawful investigation establishes his guilt.

“Again, each Grand Jurisdiction is at perfect liberty to order the infliction of any penalty upon members of chapters, for the offense; consequently it is competent for them to dermine that constituent bodies may un-affiliate those who cannot, or do not, liquidate their

liabilities to the chapter. What is true of the chapter, is also true of the lodge. Grand Chapters may further determine that unaffiliated master masons shall not visit chapters; but we hold that it is uncalled for, entirely unnecessary, and unfraternal towards sister Grand Jurisdictions, to discriminate against those companions who have been deprived of membership in the lodge, and without affecting their *status as masons*. So long as a person is recognized as a mason he should enjoy the same amenities that are permitted others that occupy the same circle of fraternal relationship."

We leave with regret this excellent report. There are many more extracts that we would like to make but our space will not permit.

M. E. Comp. Samuel Shannon, (Mt. Carmel,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Gil. W. Barnard, (Room 21, No. 78 Monroe St., Chicago,) G. Sec'y.

INDIANA.

The Thirty-seventh Annual Convocation was held at Indianapolis, October 18th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. Charles H. Butterfield, G. H. P.

He reports a year of almost unexampled prosperity to the people of the State. Peace has prevailed and the Craft is in a flourishing condition.

Both the Grand High Priest and the Deputy Grand High Priest were called home in consequence of sickness in their families.

The following reports were adopted:—

"The Committee on Jurisprudence, to which was referred so much of the Grand High Priest's address as relates to the publication of a new edition of our laws, having considered the same, find that a new edition is at this time, perhaps, necessary; we would therefore suggest that the recommendations of the Grand High Priest be concurred in, and that the committee be authorized to collate and publish a new edition of at least 1,000 copies, to contain:—

- "1. The Constitution of the Grand Chapter;
- "2. The By-Laws of the Grand Chapter;
- "3. The Rules for the Government of Subordinate Chapters;
- "4. The Installation Ceremonies of the Officers of Chapters.

"And when said work shall have been completed, the Grand Secretary is hereby authorized to draw his warrant on the Grand Treasury for the payment of the cost of the same. The Grand Secretary shall then dispose of the edition as follows:—One copy to each officer of the Grand Chapter, one copy to each permanent member of the Grand Chapter, and two copies to each Chapter in this jurisdiction; the remainder of the edition to be carefully preserved, and sold at a price not less than the actual cost of the same, and the proceeds thereof turned over to the Grand Treasurer.

"The Committee on Jurisprudence, appointed at the last annual session of the Grand Chapter, to consider, and report at this session upon the subject matter contained in a certain document emanating from the General Grand High Priest, having duly considered the matter referred to them, now report that they find the work submitted in the document referred to, substantially the same as that authorized by this Grand Chapter, the only variations being in the language used to convey the same meaning, and a few other matters of minor importance. We do not, therefore, deem it necessary to recommend any change in our present mode of work."

The following resolution was carried:—

"RESOLVED,—That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure a private seal for the use of the Grand High Priest and his successors; said seal to be one and one-quarter inches in diameter, with the same device upon it that is upon the seal of this Grand Chapter, said device to be surrounded with the inscription, 'Grand High Priest, Indiana.'"

The report on correspondence is by Comp. Albert P. Charles. He reviews Canada for 1882. In his comments on the address of the Grand First Principal, he says:—

"Three special Dispensations were issued to permit the installation of Companions as Principals who had not served in the constitutional offices. And this, the Companion says he did, notwithstanding the well-known views of the Grand Chapter against the practice. We believe the well-known views of the Grand Chapter should have been observed. In our opinion special Dispensations should be issued very rarely, and never to abrogate a law. It is better for Grand High Priests and Grand Z.'s to see that the law is followed than to issue a license to over-ride it."

He remarks on the large amount appearing to be due from members in arrears for dues, and thinks that "a little discipline would be healthy."

On the admission of members, he says:—

"We believe Capitular Masonry has suffered, in common with every department of Masonry, from too great a desire for numbers. We

are not cautious enough in the selection of material. Quantity, and not quality, seems to be the end and aim of Masonic Bodies. We are anxious to make a great display, to show a large number on 'dress parade' occasions, than to secure such members as are imbued with the true principles of our institution, and who will place Capitular Masonry upon an imperishable foundation. One zealous, live Companion will do more to make a good, working Chapter, than twenty holiday members."

M. E. Comp. Albert P. Charles, (Seymour,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John M. Bramwell, (Indianapolis,) G. Sec'y.

IOWA.

The Twenty-ninth Annual Convocation was held at Cedar Rapids, September 12th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. Augustus C. Sherwood, G. H. P.

He opened four new Chapters, and reports as follows:—

"I am pleased to inform you that the past year has been an unusually prosperous one with the Craft. A goodly number of worthy men have been added to the Order, and the prospect of Royal Arch Masonry in the jurisdiction is bright. I know of no discord at this time existing; all is peaceful and harmonious. Almost every Chapter has paid the Grand Secretary its dues for the past year, and a majority of them for the present. There are a few, however, who are, as usual, late. If it were possible to adopt some plan by which promptness could be secured and the orders of the Grand Chapter relative to the transmission of returns enforced, I would advise such action."

"I am very much in favor of establishing a rule that a Companion shall not appear as the representative of more than one Grand Chapter at the same time, and that his term shall expire at stated periods—say with each triennial of the General Grand Chapter. The office of Grand Representative of a Grand Chapter is an honorable one, of which any Companion may well feel proud; and with so many Companions that are well qualified for the position, it would be much better to properly distribute the honors whenever it is possible to do so."

On the same subject, the following report of the committee on the address was adopted:—

"The subject of Grand Representatives, as recommended by the Grand High Priest, has been carefully considered by your committee, and we would recommend an approval of the measure suggested—that is, that hereafter no Companion shall represent more than one foreign jurisdiction, believing that the distribution of the representa-

tion among a greater number will be calculated to stimulate that well-founded custom of exchanging representatives, and create a more fraternal feeling among the various jurisdictions."

A biographical sketch, with portrait, appears of Comp. Robert Farmer Bower, General Grand High Priest, whose death was so deeply lamented by all who were privileged with his acquaintance. He was a man of far more than average ability, of high culture and a lover of all that was good and pure. He was an enthusiastic Mason and a lover of the Craft wheresoever dispersed. His Masonic library was celebrated as the most extensive private library of that kind in the world. It is now the property of the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. Horace S. Winslow, and his views on the right of an officer to dimit are sound and sensible:—

"He also held that 'an installed officer of a Chapter cannot, of right, dimit during his term of office;' and of this the Committee on Jurisprudence said that it met 'with the fullest concurrence' upon their part. This may be good Masonic law, but if so, is it real good sense? The right of dismissal, we hold, should not be abridged or trammelled by any narrow or technical rules, and especially those without reason to support them. If, of right, the member may dimit at any time if not holding office, the same right should exist although so unfortunate as to be holding an installed office. The sooner we get rid of this idea, that these officers of ours have some mysterious element injected into them as soon as installed into some office, the better for us. These officers are selected, first, to aid in the successful conduct of the meetings, assisting in maintaining the order and decorum essential to all deliberative bodies, and, secondly, to assist in conferring the several degrees. Now, what is wanted of them as officers, and as a prerequisite to all things else, is their attendance. If they fail here, the 'installation' does no good—there's a vacancy. If the officer wants to leave the place or abandon the Order, he creates a vacancy just as completely by this failure to attend as though he was dimitted, and so failed to attend. Some one is called to his place, and because of his office he is *forced* to remain a member, to the end that our Order may keep alive an imaginary thing—a myth, supported only by a lack of reason. We give our 'fullest concurrence' the other way."

We also copy his conclusion:—

"We have reached the end. It is evident, we think, that Masonry,

or at least the Capitular branch of the Order, if not retrograding, at least is at a stand still. Why this is so, it is quite likely there may be, or will be, as many answers given as parties attempting its solution. To our mind, the one great controlling cause is overgrowth and undue stimulation. A reaction was sure to follow, and it is well that it should be so. We have ever been, and still continue to be, opposed to any and all means that have been, or may be, adopted, to fill our ranks by solicitations, encouragement, or the glitter and display so commonly practiced at this day. Of one's own free will and accord application should be made, and, even then, we believe in a liberal but judicious use of the black-ball. It is a wonderfully preservative agent, as well as a safe conservator of the institution and its best interests.

"While this is our present status, we have no fear as to the final outcome. When the forces now organized and making themselves felt shall have worked out their natural and legitimate ends—relieved us of the drones, laggards, and 'parade men'—we shall find Masonry solidified, compact, strong, and healthy; capable of and anxious to perform our self-imposed labor of charity, brotherly love, and benevolence."

M. E. Comp. Augustus C. Sherwood, (Marshalltown,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. W. B. Langridge, (Muscatine,) G. Sec'y.

KANSAS.

The Eighteenth Annual Convocation was held at Topeka, February 20th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. George C. Kenyon, G. H. P.

He issued Dispensations for five new Chapters.

The Royal Craft has had its full share of the general prosperity that has pervaded the State during the preceding year, both in increased membership and in increased treasuries.

The Grand High Priest granted no less than 19 special Dispensations to confer degrees out of time, to hold elections at irregular times, and for other purposes. It is not, of course, to be supposed that a Constitution and By-laws are framed and adopted for the express purpose of being dispensed with, but the time will probably come when the dispensing power of the Chief Executive will be narrowed

considerably from its present limits, if not altogether abolished. May it soon come.

We notice a curious circumstance in the report on Chapters U. D. It says that the Secretary should not put on record the character of the report of the committee on the application of a candidate for the degrees or a Companion for membership. Why not? Our entry is to the effect that the committee reported favorably or unfavorably, as the case may be, and we can see no objection to this. It seems to us that it is proper that that fact should be stated. If the report is favorable, it forms a foundation for future action through the ballot. If it is unfavorable, according to our Constitution, the candidate is rejected without ballot, and in either case, the finding of the committee should be on record.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals had none brought before them, and having none of their own to present, they compliment the Grand Chapter on the peace and harmony prevailing.

The Report on Correspondence is by the Grand Secretary, and notices Canada for 1882. He thinks that the truth is not maintained when a "substitute" is used in conferring the R. A. Degree, and the substitution may be regarded by a sensitive Companion as a sham, and might excite a feeling of disgust. We have no such fears. When properly done the ceremony can be made as impressive as with a full team. The whole ceremony is symbolical, and must be so understood by the candidate, if he is as attentive as he should be, and if he thinks of the matter at all, and is intelligent enough to understand it, he will readily perceive the reason for the substitution.

We are very glad to read his remarks on forced affiliation, as we fully agree with them, and his language is forcible and to the point:—

"This question of non-affiliation we have adverted to, time and

again, and after years of observation, and reading arguments pro and con upon the subject, by dozens, see no reason to change our first ground—that while in general it is better for a Mason to belong to some Lodge or Chapter, than to stand aloof, if he chooses the latter, he has the perfect right so to do, and for all that, is a Mason, as were our elder brethren, when Lodges were unknown. We further think that this yearly agony over unaffiliates, is purely a waste of words, tending only to widen the breach and increase the number of non-affiliates. Freely men came into the Lodge, and thence into the Chapter, and freely they should be allowed to go without hinderance or obstruction; for neither the one or other has any property in a Brother or Companion, and any assertion or assumption to the contrary, is but an act of inexcusable tyranny. Men cannot be persuaded by the language of denunciation, nor forced into Lodges or Chapters by the howl of bad standing. Wherefore, we maintain that discreet silence, and a decent exhibition of charity (in its true signification), will do more toward recalling wayward or stranded Brothers and Companions, than all the legislation now in vogue, and all the solemn threats and menaces promulgated by Grand Officers or reporters.

“Again, while drunkards, gamblers, debauchees, and arrant infidels are tolerated in Lodges and Chapters, we think the annual roar over non-affiliates in bad taste, and a worse token of consistency. Let us have a rest upon this theme for a spell, and note the results, since past censure has provoked only contempt.”

On objections after ballot, he is also sound:—

“Whatsoever may be the law in Wisconsin, the first is open to radical objection. The M. M. Degree having been conferred upon a candidate, makes him so far a member of the Chapter. If he has been guilty of unmasonic conduct, let the protestant enter complaint, let charges be filed, and a trial, in regular form, follow. If the M. M. is found guilty, let the due penalty be inflicted; if innocent, let him be advanced, when he has mastered the acroatic work of the degree taken. No Companion should be suffered, by his secret protest or objection, to stay the progress of a candidate. The Order is not a “Star Chamber,” but an association, which, to be consistent, with its professed principles, must reject all attempts, on the part of any member to bar the course of a candidate, unless, upon due trial, found unworthy of advancement.”

M. E. Comp. Henry M. Waters, (Independence,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John H. Brown, (Wyandotte,) G. Sec'y.

KENTUCKY.

The Sixty-seventh Annual Convocation was held at Louisville, October 17th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. R. J. Laughlin, G. H. P.

From the address of the Deputy Grand High Priest, Comp. Howard R. French, we make the following extracts:—

"On the 19th day of July last I received from the M. E. Grand High Priest official notice of his inability longer to discharge the duties of that office, in consequence of which I have been called upon as the next of rank to exercise the prerogatives of that exalted station, and by his request submit a report of his official acts as well as my own, during that brief period. He also constitutes me his proxy to greet you on this occasion, and ask you to co-operate with him in the effort to legislate with an eye single to the best interests of the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction."

"To my mind there is no more pregnant cause of the lack of interest in the work of the Capitular Degrees, and the sparse attendance on the few meetings held, than a want of familiarity with the ritual on the part of the principal officers of the Chapters. The possession of this knowledge as a pre-requisite to exaltation to office, was recognized by the wise framers of our laws, and we do well to heed their wise counsels in opening our quarries. No sensible man would let to mere apprentices a contract to prepare the stone for his costly mansion; how much less should we give authority to prepare the living stones for our Temple to any but those fully competent to teach the young craftsman such skill in architecture as will enable him to produce good work, true work and square work only, and excite in him a love for his profession.

"It is not natural for us to be much interested in work of which we ourselves are comparatively ignorant, and which we rarely see well done by others.

"I am aware the instruction necessary to attain this proficiency is not easy of access to the majority of our subordinate Masonic bodies, and for that reason I have always favored Grand Lecturers, whose duty it should be to visit subordinates and impart this instruction. Grand officers are not always competent to do so, nor can they leave their ordinary avocations to travel over their jurisdictions for that purpose.

"It is therefore highly important there should be, at least in every new Chapter established, one Companion who is competent to do and to teach; and until the proper certificate of the qualifications of the proposed High Priest to perform his duties is produced, I deem it the duty of the Grand High Priest to refuse to grant a Dispensation. I hope this meets with your approval. * * *

"The very able reports made to Grand Chapter at the last session, on the subject of the Council Degrees, deserve, as I have no doubt they have received, your most thoughtful consideration. In a matter of such grave importance it is well no hasty action was taken.

"After a year's deliberation, I trust you are prepared to settle this disturbing question in a decisive manner. No good can come of dallying with it. Not only Cryptic but Capitular Masonry suffers from the unsettled feeling and divided opinions as to the former.

"A multiplicity of degrees and independent Masonic bodies is not in keeping with the spirit of Masonry nor the age in which we live. They serve to gratify ambition for office, but do not subserve the general good. If the zeal of Masons was more concentrated, if their time,

their labor and their means were "pooled," so to speak, instead of being diverted into so many different channels, we would have brighter, better Masons, more dignity before the world, and above all greater influence for good.

"The propriety of eliminating the P. M. Degree from the Royal Arch System (with which it has no proper connection) and placing the Royal and Select Master's Degrees under the jurisdiction of the Chapter, is one which has engaged the attention of the men most sincerely attached to Capitular Masonry and the Cryptic Rite. The wisdom of this plan commends itself to me, but I have no desire in the present attitude of the matter to lead a crusade in that direction. Our General Grand Jurisdiction is not prepared for that change, which I think must ultimately come."

The following appears in the report of the Committee on the Address, which was adopted:—

"Your committee most heartily endorses the views advanced by your Deputy Grand High Priest, in regard to the qualifications of the High Priest named in a Dispensation, to confer the degrees in a Chapter, and doubt not that a perfect familiarity with the ritual on the part of the officers would awaken an interest in Capitular Masonry never before felt in this Grand Jurisdiction." * * *

RESOLVED,—That the Charters of the sixteen Chapters which have made no returns for more than three years, are hereby declared forfeited, and the Grand High Priest is requested to appoint some suitable Companion to take possession of the effects and close up the business of each Chapter."

The degrees of Royal and Select Master were relinquished by the adoption of the following resolutions:—

RESOLVED,—That this Grand Chapter resigns its jurisdiction over the Degrees of Royal and Select Master into the hands of the officers and members comprising the last Grand Council of such, which met in the city of Louisville on the 24th day of October, 1878.

"RESOLVED,—That the M. E. Grand High Priest and his associate Grand Officers, be instructed to fraternally request the M. I. Grand Master of the Grand Council last presiding, to convene at an early day, the officers and members comprising the last Grand Council for the purpose of formally resigning into their hands the trust committed to them."

Comp. Hiram Basset again presents an excellent report on Correspondence. Under "Alabama," he says:—

"No business of general interest was transacted unless it be the repeal of a regulation requiring candidates for advancement "to be examined as to their proficiency in each degree," which is regretted.

"The regulation is considered a step in the right direction, and your committee is of opinion that its general observance would be

highly beneficial. The lack of zeal and interest manifested by the great mass, it is feared, of R. A. M., is owing, in a great degree, to their scanty knowledge of the steps they have taken. When a Brother's knowledge of the rituals is such as to render him useful in the ceremonies of Masonry, he will generally be found in attendance upon the meetings, and taking an active part in the business of the body. The *Masonic ladder* has been made too easy of ascent. It would be better far if three, six, or even *twelve* months were required to reach the topmost round, than from one to two, as now; unless *proficiency* was exhibited before each succeeding step. Let *advancement* depend upon *knowledge*, and whilst we might have fewer *members*, we would have more *Masons*; and such a blemish, or *cancerous* spot as a dormant, or *comatose* Lodge or Chapter would never be found eating into the vitals of the *body-Masonic*."

The Proceedings of Canada for 1882 are well noticed.

On the much discussed question of suspension for non-payment of Dues, Comp. Bassett remarks:—

"With us it is not simply the 'failure to pay dues' that leads to suspension, (we never expel for non-payment of dues, but merely suspend, and leave it with the suspended to terminate the period at his own pleasure,) but the violation of his compact with the Lodge—his obligation to 'maintain and support' or 'stand to and abide by' the By-laws of the Lodge, and contumaciously refusing, or failing to obey the due summons of the Lodge. We think there is a degree of un-masonic conduct in this—of disrespect to his brother members—that merits a forfeiture, for a temporary period at least, of all Masonic rights—the length of the period resting with himself. We have never known a brother to be suspended who was unable to pay his dues. 'Further time,' or a total remission has always been granted, when a Brother has shown enough consideration for the Lodge to treat it with ordinary respect. Nor is there anything in the confession of inability that should cause humiliation, while to remain passive, and be 'dropped from the roll,' should produce such a feeling, because in that act there is a degree of punishment, and that implies misconduct.

"But, your pardon for dwelling upon this question. We have been tempted into it because it is one of the few 'bones of contention' among the *mutuals*."

M. E. Comp. Howard R. French, (Mt. Sterling,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Joseph H. Brannham, (Louisville,) G. Sec'y.

LOUISIANA.

The Thirty-Sixth Annual Convocation was held at New Orleans, February 13th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. Andrew Hero, G. H. P.

He reports as follows on the condition of the Craft. We are glad to perceive signs of returning prosperity to this jurisdiction, and trust that the improvement may continue:—

“The past Masonic year has been attended with prosperity to the people of this State, and whilst our Order has shared in the general success, consequent upon the general welfare prevalent within our midst, yet our continued zeal and energy is requisite to dispel the darkness of adversity that had enshrouded Capitular Masonry in Louisiana during the past later years.

“In consonance with the views set forth in my last address, I assigned particular Chapters, within the immediate hail of our several Grand Officers, to their special care and guidance, with the request that visitations be made to each during the year, and efforts be undertaken to revive the then drooping interests of the Craft. The reports of these officers will be presented to you; and from all the information that I can gain, no decline has taken place in the condition of our subordinate Chapters, and the general condition of their affairs has improved, under the brightening influence of returning prosperity.”

On Grand Representatives, he says:—

“In this connection I suggest that it would be judicious to limit the terms of our Grand Representatives near other Grand Chapter to three years; and that no Companion accredited as a Grand Representative to our East should represent more than one Grand Chapter.

“The latter will prove beneficial in the distribution of these honors among a greater number of the worthy companions of this jurisdiction, and the increase in actual representatives will better subserve the purposes of such appointments; and whilst the limitation of term will not prevent the retention of a representative by re-appointment, when desired, it will secure the selection of representatives at all times from among the active workers in our vineyard of Masonry.”

We regret to observe that we are this year to be deprived of the privilege of reading another of Comp. Horner's interesting reports:—

“In view of the fact that the finances of this Grand Chapter do not warrant the expenditure, at this period, of the amount requisite for the printing of a review of the proceedings of our sister Grand Chapters, we needs must be content with the announcement that peace and harmony prevail in and with our sister Grand jurisdictions; that our relations with each other continue to be fraught with good will and brotherly love; and their proceedings evince a devotedness to the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry.”

As a substitute, we copy the following, and we are very

much troubled to think that perhaps our valuable efforts are now meeting with the same fate that appears to have befallen his, that is that they are not read by our Companions. The thought is overwhelming. But we are cheered by the remembrance of a conversation we had with an eminent companion last week, who informed us that some years ago, when he was presiding over his Chapter, he was in the habit, at each meeting of his Chapter, of reading to the Companions some extracts from our reports, and encouraging a discussion upon the various points there brought out. He was further pleased to say that the members were delighted with this practice, that he had excellent meetings and a capital attendance all the year, and that he believed it was entirely owing to the interesting and valuable matters contained in these reports on correspondence. So we breathe again; but, please, Comp. Horner, don't frighten us any more.

*"Companions—*Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report that they have received, as usual copies of the proceedings of our several sister Grand Chapters, but have determined to postpone a review of the same until next year.

"Our first consideration in determining upon this course, is the condition of our treasury, which can better support the expense of a bi-ennial rather than an annual report; and the second, the belief that a bi-ennial review will accomplish the desired result.

"While we are convinced that reviews of the proceedings of sister Grand Chapters are greatly conducive to the good of this Grand Chapter, and to that of the Order generally, in creating emulation, maintaining and fostering fraternal relations, and in promoting harmony and uniformity of work and legislation, still, the reports of the various Committees on Correspondence are not so widely read and studied as some Companions imagine, and in many instances are perused only by the reviewers themselves, and written principally to that end. In illustration of our meaning, we having not made a report for some years prior to ours of last year, since the appearance of that, have had the curiosity to ask many members of this Grand Chapter whether they had read it, and we have failed to find three among all your members who would plead guilty to the 'soft impeachment.'

"Taking all things into consideration, therefore, your Committee feel fully justified in the adoption of their determination to hereafter present a review every second year, unless matters of urgency should arise."

The following report of a special committee was adopted

after an animated debate, which was participated in by many of the Companions:—

“Your Special Committee on Grand Representatives respectfully report that they have considered M. E. G. High Priest’s remarks on the subject of Grand Representatives, and agree with him that one Companion should not represent more than one Grand Chapter, as Grand Representative, and recommend that our Grand High Priest do not appoint, to represent our Grand Chapter near other Grand Chapters, any Companion who is already Grand Representative for another Grand Chapter.

“As to the limitation of the term of office of our Grand Representatives, we do not think there is any necessity for this, as the Grand Representative’s commission may be recalled at any time, and a three year’s, or any other limit, would entail much extra labor uselessly on the Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary; or, perhaps, the limit would be overlooked, and our Grand Chapter would not have any Grand Representatives.

“It might be considered a good cause for recalling the commission of a Grand Representative, if he failed for three years, or any other special limit of time, to attend the Grand Convocations of the Grand Chapter to which he is accredited.”

M. E. Comp. J. L. Lobdell, (Lobdell,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. J. C. Batchelor, (New Orleans,) G. Sec’y.

MAINE.

The Fifty-seventh Annual Convocation was held at Portland, May 2nd, 1882.

He made a number of official visitations, and found the Chapters generally in good condition. He had sufficient “back-bone” to refuse a Special Dispensation. We thoroughly coincide:—

“October 12, 1881, I received a request from the M. E. High Priest of a Chapter, for Dispensation to elect and confer the Chapter degrees upon a brother at a special meeting. No reason for having the Dispensation granted was given, except that he was anxious to commence on them, if accepted, and was well-known among the Companions. I answered as follows:—

“This is the case with about all who apply for the degrees. I would be much pleased to comply with your request, if I could feel that I had a sufficient reason. Authority is given the G. H. Priest to grant Dispensations for accepting a brother and conferring the degrees in less than the usual time, while at the same time the unwritten law of the Order only allows him *to use* this authority when the exigen-

cies of the occasion require. I trust you will coincide with above opinion.’”

The moon, however, did require to be dispensed with, as it came unfortunately in direct collision with a By-law. There was no Wednesday in December on or before the full moon, and the By-law stated that the election of officers shall take place at the regular meeting in December, and that meeting shall be held on the Wednesday “on or before,” so a Dispensation was granted to hold the election on a Thursday. We got over the same difficulty by amending our By-laws so as to provide that the election of officers should take place at the regular meeting immediately preceding the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, and so now we are independent of “Fair Luna,” and our officers can be elected without fear of any “*De Lunatico Inquirendo*.”

On the condition of the Craft, he says:—

“Royal Arch Masonry in this State, during the year past, has been making a steady gain. There have been sixty more exaltations this year than last, and yet the present membership is not as large as last year. Several Chapters finding ‘unfaithful Craftsmen,’ who, though able, were unwilling to bear their shares of the burdens, have suspended them during the year past. This is right. If a Companion is able, and will not pay the small assessment required in most Chapters, he is unworthy, and the sooner he is out of the body the better; if he is unable, his dues *should be fully and cheerfully remitted*.”

I do not think there has ever been a time in the history of Capitular Masonry in this State when the Companions of the several Chapters were more closely allied together than the present. The officers of the Subordinate Chapters have earnestly endeavored to make the work conform to the ritual of the Grand Chapter, and the errors that now appear are few and unimportant. I feel to congratulate the Companions of the several Chapters upon the uniformity of their work.

“I desire to call attention to a practice which has prevailed for some time in certain Chapters. I allude to the duties of Secretary and Treasurer, which are clearly defined by the By-laws. A Companion, in accepting an office, thereby agrees that he will faithfully perform its duties. Now, a few of the Treasurers do not do so. The Secretary receives all moneys, pays all bills, and when he gets ready, pays the balance over to the Treasurer. This is not right. There is no authority, express or implied, for a Secretary to pay out moneys; but he should turn all money over to the Treasurer as he receives it, taking his receipt therefor, and the Treasurer should pay the bills.

“I speak of this not intending to find fault, but with the kindest

feelings towards those whom these remarks may hit, who are not so much to blame as their predecessors who passed the custom down to them. I trust this habit may be discontinued."

Reports are also presented from the various Grand Officers, showing that they have performed their duties in no perfunctory manner.

The report on Correspondence by Comp. Josiah H. Drummond, is in its proper place in the middle of the Proceedings, and not among the tombstones, &c. Canada, for 1881, is noticed.

We make the following extracts:—

"But as to there not having been Grand Masters before there were Grand Lodges, we take issue squarely with our Companion. He admits that there was an officer '*called*' Grand Master. But because they exercised different functions *in some particulars*, he claims that they were not Grand Masters, as known since 1717. By the same argument, it follows that there was no Freemasonry prior to 1717; and in fact he says, 'No such then existed.' Now, our Companion may *call* his statements history, and he may continue to *call* them history till dooms-day, but he will not in the least detract from the fact that they are *not* history. Freemasonry existed long before 1717, as an operative institution it is true, with a Grand Master with almost supreme power at its head; it had been gradually changing from an operative to a speculative institution for years before 1717, and at that time was really a speculative institution: the Grand Master had met all the Craft in 'General Assembly,' and presided therein annually; but in 1717 a change was made, and instead of the whole Craft meeting in 'General Assembly,' with the Grand Master at their head, they met by their Representatives in Grand Lodge, with the Grand Master at its head. The change in 1717 was merely that from a general meeting of the Craft to make laws, to a representative form of government. The change from the *operative* character of the institution to the *speculative* had happened before. So we repeat, that Grand Masters existed *in fact* as well as *name*, before Grand Lodges did. The Old Charges, &c., collected by Anderson, were those existing long before 1717, and our whole Masonic system is founded on rules which in 1717 were '*Ancient Regulations*,' clearly recognizing the powers of the Grand Master.

* * *

"Now as to the law in Maine in relation to non-payment of dues, as it has stood over one hundred years. He is a lawyer, and can comprehend it. The theory of Lodge membership was, that *it was a contract* between the Lodge and the member, and nothing more: the payment of dues entitled the party to the privilege of membership in the Lodge, and upon his ceasing to pay, the Lodge was entitled to deprive him of membership. The law did not hold that the non-performance of a contract was a criminal offence, any more than the

civil law now does. For many years, the Secretary used to strike the names of delinquents from the roll of his own motion; but some errors having occurred, it was determined that a Mason should not be adjudged to have failed to perform his contract without an opportunity to be heard. Finally, within comparatively a few years, it was provided that a member, having failed to perform one such contract, should not be allowed to make another until he had performed the old one. Further, it being found that one who had lost his membership in this way was sometimes, without good cause, refused membership, the Grand Lodge provided that, instead of depriving him of membership, the Lodge might suspend him from its privileges until he should pay his dues.

"Now, we submit to Comp. Warren:

"1. That a Grand Lodge having adopted and practiced this system for so long a time, no Body of any grade can challenge its Masonic right to do so.

"2. That as long as the supreme law of a jurisdiction makes the payment of dues a contract; and nothing more, no offence cognizable as such grows out of their non-payment, because the breach of a contract is not a Masonic offence.

"3. That the rescision of the contract by the Lodge for non-performance of it by the member still leaves him in good standing as an unaffiliated Mason.

"He says we misconstrue his remark that the non-payment of dues is 'just as grave an offence as to refuse relief, the applicant being worthy and the Brother applied to able to contribute.' But he does not understand us; or we do not understand him. We hold that the matter of giving relief in a given case is between the Brother and his own conscience, and that the refusal in any case is *not* an offence for which he may be tried by his Lodge. Does Comp. Warren hold otherwise? If so, we repeat what we said last year.

"But it is said that our system in Maine is a premium on non-affiliation and neglect to pay dues. To this we make the same reply that we made last year, and which, by the way, no one of our opponents concluded to notice. There is a less per cent. of non-affiliates in Maine than in any other jurisdiction; there are less, in proportion, suspended from or deprived of membership for non-payment of dues than in any other jurisdiction; there is less delinquency in the payment of dues than in any other jurisdiction; Massachusetts used to keep pace with us in this respect, but the heavy assessments to pay the Temple debt has increased the number of delinquents. If any one will examine the statistics, he will find that the number suspended for non-payment of dues increases with the severity of the law in relation to this matter. With the condition of things in Maine as it is, we do not propose to change our system: because the Nebraska fox, in common with a majority of her associates, has lost her caudal appendage, the Maine fox is not so anxious to follow the fashion as to be willing to submit to the same loss."

Comp. Drummond also says that the character of a report of a committee on the application of a candidate ought never to be recorded, but he does not say why it should not.

We would like to know the reason of this practice, which is contrary to our usage.

We are again indebted to Comp. Drummond for his valuable statistical remarks and table:—

“The figures for Florida, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and West Virginia, are the same as given in our report of last year, as we have no later advices.

“Those from some other jurisdictions are not as accurate as is desirable, because in some cases an estimate of the membership of Chapters not making returns is included, and in other cases it is not.

“The total Membership is 128,557 against 127,105 in 1881, and 127,025 in 1880; the Exaltations are 7,424 against 6,733 in 1881, and 5,733 in 1880; the Admissions and Restorations are 1,868 against 1,900 in 1881, and 1,742 in 1880; the Dimissions are 2,818 against 3,073 in 1881, and 3,183 in 1880; the Expulsions are 75 against 85 in 1881, and 122 in 1880; the Suspensions (including suspensions from membership) are 2,859 against 3,762 in 1881, and 4,293 in 1880; and the Deaths are 1,633 against 1,496 in 1881, and 1,602 in 1880.

“We thus find an increase of nearly 1,500 in the total membership: and while it is gratifying to find that this increase comes in part (692) from an increase of exaltations, still the great cause for rejoicing is found in the decrease of dimissions, and especially in the decrease of nearly 1,000 in suspensions. It is evident that suspension for non-payment of dues has reached its maximum, and we have, therefore, reason to look for an increase of membership in the future.

We append our usual table. We have still to repeat the complaint that in some Proceedings no table, and in some, no recapitulation is found.

TABLE.

GRAND CHAPTERS.	Members.	Exaltations.	Admissions & Restorations.	Dimissions.	Expulsions.	Suspensions.	Sus. for Non- pay't dues.	Deaths.
Alabama.....	809	17	8	24	0	0	16	16
Arkansas.....	1,112	69	31	28	1	....	*20	35
California.....	3,124	292	75	87	1	0	29	47
Canada.....	3,489	204	39	88	0	....	*58	33
Colorado.....	539	73	23	16	1	6	10	6
Connecticut.....	3,924	175	11	18	2	0	30	66
Delaware.....	331	25	1	6	1	....	10	5
District of Columbia.....	1,095	60	18	18	0	0	31	19
Florida.....	205	9	3	6	6	....	*6	4
Georgia.....	1,345	44	17	31	0	....	*32	29
Illinois.....	10,321	738	133	277	10	....	*186	106
Indiana.....	4,397	207	39	126	7	10	120	58
Iowa.....	4,796	475	115	140	4	....	68	44
Kansas.....	1,831	247	56	73	1	....	*15	16
Kentucky.....	2,769	178	56	100	0	....	*86	30
Louisiana.....	926	36	20	14	0	14	29	29
Maine.....	4,049	213	28	84	0	0	165	57
Maryland.....	1,103	54	7	29	1	....	*62	11
Massachusetts.....	9,132	410	....	147	0	34	13	95
Michigan.....	7,594	417	109	178	3	5	124	86
Minnesota.....	1,932	145	17	38	0	0	48	14
Mississippi.....	1,509	61	25	26	0	1	55	28
Missouri.....	4,000	363	91	124	0	4	111	57
Nebraska.....	932	67	61	17	0	....	*11	9
Nevada.....	412	29	15	27	0	0	5	5
New Hampshire.....	2,220	68	81	26	0	0	6	38
New Jersey.....	2,475	101	16	43	1	11	91	33
New York.....	15,028	789	213	297	1	2	726	228
North Carolina.....	867	32	4	7	0	1	13	8
Nova Scotia.....	435	23	10	14	0	0	0	6
Ohio.....	8,809	522	155	159	9	....	*196	89
Oregon.....	572	62	6	8	0	1	7	3
Pennsylvania.....	9,976	414	85	127	2	....	*251	110
Quebec.....	348	35	0	6	0	0	0	1
Rhode Island.....	1,634	26	....	....	....	....	....	12
South Carolina.....	577	21	3	17	13	0	19	12
Tennessee.....	2,385	110	46	71	3	23	69	19
Texas.....	3,261	158	104	123	7	....	*47	76
Vermont.....	1,952	74	8	24	0	....	*15	26
Virginia.....	1,740	57	76	59	0	....	*28	18
West Virginia.....	520	51	13	20	0	0	11	8
Wisconsin.....	3,421	224	32	75	0	....	*40	38
General Grand Chapter.....	679	49	18	20	1	1	0	3
	128,557	7424	1868	2818	75	123	2859	1633

*Including all suspensions.

MARYLAND.

The Eighty-Fifth Annual Convocation was held at Baltimore, November 14th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. William F. Cochran, G. H. P.

He reports quietude and harmony in their family circle.

He issued a dispensation for one new Chapter.

In his conclusion he says:—

“I am glad to be able to report that the outlook for Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction is a most encouraging one. Almost without exception the Chapters have been constantly at work, and quite a large number of the brethren have been exalted to the degree of the Royal Arch, and have attained the perfection of Ancient Craft Masonry. Much interest is taken in the work, and a healthy degree of rivalry exists, particularly between some of our city Chapters, which results in the officers, especially those on the floor, embracing every opportunity to perfect themselves in the ritual, and creating a noble spirit of emulation as to ‘who can best work and best agree.’”

Several amendments to the Constitution were disposed of, and other local business transacted.

The Report on Correspondence, by Comp. E. T. Schultz, notices our Proceedings for 1882.

On the question of the requirement of previous service in office before election to the principal chair, Comp. Schultz has the following remarks in his notice of Nebraska, and he also expresses his belief that there are two kinds of suspension, or rather, we should say, that it is competent to limit the effect of suspension to Lodge membership, as well as to limit it to any definite time. It is acknowledged on all hands that suspension from all the rights of Masonry may be for a time certain, say three or six months, and why should there not be a suspension that will affect only Lodge rights without touching the other general rights of a Mason.

“Companion Warren says, Masonry is ‘*sui generis*.’ Exactly so,—of itself, peculiar to itself,—therefore the rules and regulations peculiar to itself should not, cannot be changed; it is not within the

power of the Grand Chapter, nor the Grand Lodge either, to make regulations contrary to them. There is no landmark more clearly defined than that no one can serve as Master unless he has served as Warden. (Charge IV., of the old Regulations.) The practice of requiring 'previous service' may not be over fifteen years old in Companion Drummond's jurisdiction, but in this State the practice is as old as our Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter themselves, both of which have nearly reached the venerable age of one hundred years. In the by-laws of one of our Lodges, now before us, printed in the year 1800, the old charge above quoted is expressly laid down; and the regulation is the same in the Chapters from the earliest period of their existence. The practice *has* therefore '*the odor of longevity*' about it, in this jurisdiction at least.

"Having always held that suspension from membership, and suspension from the rights of Masonry were totally different things, we surely cannot be classed as 'a convert to the theory that there are more than one kind of suspension.' Call us an old fogey upon this subject, if you please, Companion Warren, and it will please us much better.

"A Mason suspended from membership may not be regarded in good standing as far as his Lodge or Chapter privileges are concerned, but his rights and privileges in the fraternity generally, are not impaired thereby. This is Masonry,—universal Masonry, as we understand it, derived from its written and unwritten laws, regulations and usages."

We also copy the following interesting historical extract:—

"The original record book of a Royal Arch Encampment, held in the City of Washington, in the years 1795 to 1799, which was found a few years since, established the fact, that a Grand Chapter was about to be formed for the State of Maryland, June 24th, 1797, and documents since discovered prove conclusively that it was formed at that time, and also that it was in existence in the year 1807.

"An old charter dated Anno Templi, 2814, was exhumed from the rubbish a few years ago, the preamble of which reads as follows:—

"WHEREAS, at a Grand Chapter, held in the City of Baltimore, Anno Templi, 2797, several Chapters having then obtained dispensations; and whereas the said Chapters were acknowledged and confirmed at a Grand Chapter, held in the City of Washington, A. T. 2807, and having prayed this Grand Chapter for charters of recognition, &c.

"This body may have been dormant some portion of these ten years; there is reason to believe, however, that during this period the Subordinate Chapters under its jurisdiction were regularly working, and that it exercised at times at least, the powers of a Grand Chapter. At any rate, the body that was formed in 1797, resuscitated in 1807, and again in 1814, was substantially the same body; of this we think there can be no doubt whatever.

"The Grand Secretary, Companion Geo. L. McCahan, has in his possession the returns of Grand Chapters to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, dated October 15th, 1825, wherein the date of the formation of the Grand Chapter of Maryland and the District of Columbia is given as 1797. These figures are in the hand

writing of the General Grand Secretary, Companion John Abbot. Nearly sixty years ago, therefore, it was conceded, that our Grand Chapter *was* organized in the year 1797, accordingly it has the priority as to date over all the other Grand Chapters on these returns. Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island and New York, are on the returns as having been organized in the year 1798."

M. E. Comp. Charles V. S. Levy, (Frederick,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. George L. McCahan, (Baltimore,) G. Sec.'y.

MASSACHUSETTS.

At the Quarterly Convocation on March 7th, 1882, Comp. Edwin Wright presented his credentials as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and was received and acknowledged as such.

The Eighty-second Annual Convocation was held at Boston, December 12th, 1882.

The work was exemplified in all the degrees by the Grand Lecturer and his assistants.

From the very able address of the Grand High Priest we make the following extracts:—

"BOOK OF MARKS.

"There is one subject to which I must call your especial attention,—the book of Marks; and I do so at this time because I deem it of the utmost importance. A large proportion of the Chapters are doing all that can be desired in this respect, while others are lax and inattentive. The latter, I am certain, cannot have given careful and serious thought to this subject. Would you know the value of the book of Marks to the Chapter which has been so fortunate as to secure the engrossment of the Marks of its members or even of a majority of them, go and see for what price it can be purchased. Would you know how highly the individual member prizes the record of his Mark, go to him and ask for what consideration he would have it forever blotted out. If you will visit a Chapter which is in possession of a well-filled and carefully engrossed book of Marks you will find that the book is the one object in the Chapter which commands, first and last and at all times, the deepest and liveliest interest of visiting Companions. And if the book is of value and interest now, how incalculable will be its value to the generations of coming time! To our children and to our children's children these Marks will be something more than the mere record of old devices. In them they will find chrystallized the Masonic individuality of their ancestors. But need

I enlarge upon this part of the subject? The sterling value of the book of Marks, properly kept, must be apparent to every Mason who has been honored with the Degree of the Royal Arch.

"The question may therefore be asked, Why do Chapters neglect to provide this priceless record? Some, I am credibly informed, neglect the observance because there is no written law making it obligatory upon them. Companions, there are laws more solemnly binding upon Masons than are to be found recorded in By-laws or Books of Constitutions. They are to be found in the *Ancient Landmarks* and in our solemn obligations. As a Landmark I would refer to the bounden duty of every Mark Master, at the building of the Temple, to choose his Mark and to affix it to his work. And it is not necessary for me to refer to your solemn vow, but to the great lessons which so closely follow, and which clearly show that the Mark is held by ancient usage as a pledge of friendship, a sign of brotherhood, sacred and inviolable. Why, let me ask, are those ties incorporated into the work of the Degree, if the Mark itself is a thing left to the whim and caprice of the individual, to be by him adopted or discarded at pleasure? The Key-stone without the distinctive mark of its owner is but a bawble; and, so far as the individual wearer is concerned, it has no Masonic significance whatever.

"I am happy to chronicle the fact that the reports from the various districts show conclusively that during the year a large number of Companions have selected their Marks, many of them being noticeable for originality as well as beauty. And, believing it a duty to honor those to whom honor is so justly due, I gladly place upon official record the name of Norfolk Royal Arch Chapter, of Hyde Park, as being without doubt the banner Chapter of the State, its book of Marks bearing the selection of almost every member upon its Roll.

"In dismissing this important subject, let me add that I have not a word to say in the spirit of dictation; but, for the honor of Capitular Masonry in our grand old Commonwealth, for the more perfect furnishing of our Subordinate Chapters, for your own good, and for the historic wealth thus to be transmitted to those who shall follow us in coming ages, I earnestly beseech you to see to it that the book of Marks is not only furnished in every Chapter within our jurisdiction, but that every Mason honored with the Degree of the Royal Arch, who has not already done so, at once select his mark, and, in the language of our time-honored ritual, 'Cause the same to be recorded in the Lodge book as such.'

IMPROVEMENT IN THE WORK.

"Personal inspection and diligent enquiry have demonstrated that the majority of the Chapters were never in better working condition than at the present time. This is due to many reasons, the most important of which is that of late years the truth has gradually dawned upon the Chapters that nowhere in the wide range of Masonry can Degrees more realistic in design or impressive in effect possibly be found. Years ago Capitular Masonry was regarded as a convenient stepping-stone from the Blue Lodge to the Commandery; but that day has passed away, never to return.

"At present the various Chapters take great pride in presenting the Degrees with all the beauty and finish which should ever characterize Masonic work.

"In many cases the valuable auxiliaries of music and paraphernalia are largely introduced, with the most pleasing and impressive results.

"I have ever regarded the use of paraphernalia as one of the important requisites for the proper presentation of the work of our several Degrees; and in my visits to the first Capitular District this feature has been very noticeable.

"St. Paul's Royal Arch Chapter has possessed itself of a set of robes which, for richness and beauty, I have never seen equalled; and the great success of the present administration of this old and honored institution is no doubt due very largely to the liberality and good judgment of those who believe that it is wise to make a generous expenditure in those directions which most contribute to a graceful and imposing representation of the Degrees of our Rite.

MASONIC ENTERPRISE.

"I have always found that the success of every branch of Masonry is dependent upon the same causes which govern the workings of any business enterprise; and, as no mercantile establishment can look for success unless it places before its patrons the best of merchandise in the most attractive form, so must our Chapters gradually lose their standing and influence unless they come up to the standard of the hour, and are fully alive to the demands of the age.

"The High Priest must see that his work is forcible and correct, and by constant practice and rehearsal infuse a like interest into his associates in office; and every official should endeavor to make the Chapters so attractive that, as the night of meeting draws nigh, the members may all realize that no more agreeable place can possibly be found than within its pleasant walls.

THE SOCIAL ELEMENT.

"I would also earnestly urge upon all the importance of cultivating the social element of this institution. Open wide your doors and make the stranger Mason feel that the lines which divide your Chapters are only imaginary; and by your kind and courteous treatment so impress him with the value of our great Brotherhood that, having once found the way, he may often be seen within your sanctuary.

"I have no hesitation in saying that the social Chapter is the successful one. Hospitality should be governed at all times by prudence and discretion; but the small amount expended in order that the members may become well known to each other, is certainly productive of more lasting results than a treasury which always opens to receive and seldom to impart.

CONGRATULATORY.

"Companions, let me congratulate you upon the present outlook of Capitular Masonry in the old Bay State. With a constituency of sixty-nine subordinate bodies, and a membership of nearly ten thousand Royal Arch Masons, with our finances in the best possible condition, with no division in our ranks, no jealousy or discord in our Brotherhood, and with a full tide of prosperity flooding our beloved country, surely we have nothing whereof to complain, but everything for which to be grateful.

"Let every heart, then, beat high in common loyalty to our dear old Masonic Order throughout its whole circumference. Let us hope that the opening year may prove even more prosperous and blessed than the closing one. And let us all reverently trust that, as relentless time sweeps us away from the temporal places that now know us, we shall reappear, and salute each other as brethren beneath that arch of eternity where the Supreme Master himself presides over the boundless assembly of immortals.

"The King of the Universe full in our sight,
We will bow and worship in the realms of the light;
Exempt from all evil, forever at rest,
Each one with his *Mark* on his brow and his breast!"

For the fourteenth time the report is presented by Comp. J. W. Dadmun, on Foreign Correspondence. It is written with his usual skill and ability, and is thoroughly interesting.

He likes to take the side of the under dog in the fight, and after we have heard so much about the uselessness of the so-called Higher Degrees, it is as welcome as flowers in May to hear a good word in season on the opposite side. We have never been able to agree with those who would compel a Brother to continue to pay dues to a Lodge under pain of forfeiture of his standing in the Chapter and Commandery. We have known a number of Companions who were very little use in the Lodge, but who took a fancy to the Chapter, and became very enthusiastic there, and were very useful and did a great deal of good to the Capitular branch of Masonry. We think that every Mason, after he has received the degrees properly, should be allowed to choose that particular branch of the Masonic science in which he feels the most interest and in which he thinks he can do the most good, and if he thinks that he can afford to pay dues to only one body, we cannot see why he should not be permitted to do so. We do not see why the Chapter or any other body should be deprived of the services of a faithful and zealous Companion, because he cannot afford to pay dues to both the Lodge and the Chapter. We believe in the freedom of Masonry to the fullest extent, and if a Brother likes the Chapter the best, or prefers the Templars, or the "Scotchmen," or the "Egyp-

tians," to any others, by all means let him devote his talents to the benefit of his favorite system and let the good work go on.

"Is it 'in the Lodge where all real duties of Masonry are performed?' We think the duties of the Chapter, or Commandery, are just as 'real' as those of the Lodge, and that they are far from being 'less onerous.' And the 'luxuries' are fully as abundant in the basement as anywhere else in the building. And we will add that in this country Blue Masonry is greatly indebted to the Chapter and Commandery for its popularity and permanent prosperity. In the anti-Masonic times the old Boston Commandery was the nucleus in and around which the faithful assembled until the storm was over; it was the only body that really preserved its organization intact. We do not believe in decrying any of them. When a Brother has plenty of money he can afford to support several homes, but when misfortune overtakes him he is quite happy if he can retain but one."

Canada for 1882 receives a fraternal notice.

We also copy the following from his review of Kansas:—

"It is refreshing to read something from a Western correspondent on the charity side of Freemasonry,—something about Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. These hard shell Masons, who are everlastingly talking about justice and Masonic sovereignty, unmixed and unmingled with charity,—love, long suffering, gentleness, and kindness,—make a sad mistake. It is too cold, sombre, and iron-clad for any association worthy of being called a Brotherhood. Read what Comp. Brown says about it:—

"If a Brother or Companion does not feel able or want to pay for these privileges let him go in peace, and, when he has been out a while and learned that such privileges are worth paying for, he will not stay out long. Many times a Brother mistakes their value, and when he learns that he has under-estimated it he will not be slow to retrace his steps. Let him have his own time, not compel his return, or cast him wholly without the pale of fraternal consideration. Let him be free to come of his own accord."

"Put that by the side of 'I would hang four dollars' worth of him,' and tell us what you think about it. The Master went after the lost one, and, when he had found it, brought it back to the fold with rejoicing. Away with your priests and Levites that 'pass by on the other side,' and give us a few 'good Samaritans' in every Lodge and Chapter, who will bind up the wounds of the suffering, visit the wayward and delinquent ones, and thus illustrate the Brotherhood of Masonry. There is danger that Freemasonry will drift from its moorings as a moral Order founded upon the moral law, the Christian religion, and the practice of the Christian virtues, and become a mere secular organization,—a 'corporation without a soul.' We say, stand by the old landmarks, and let every Companion in his daily life exemplify the moral, social, and charitable principles of our glorious institution "

In reply to Comp. Edwards, of New Jersey, on the subject of suspension from Lodge membership only, Comp. Dadmun has the following excellent and forcible remarks:—

“Comp. Edwards does violence to etymology, philology, and Masonic history when he asserts that the term suspension ‘cannot be qualified,’ or that it can have but one meaning in Masonry. By the laws of language, the term suspension may be limited in its meaning to any part of our physical, mental, moral, religious, social or official functions, rights or privileges. Masonically, a Mason may be suspended merely from the rights and privileges of an office, so that he cannot exercise the functions thereof. By the suspension of the charter of a Lodge all the members are suspended from all their rights and privileges in that Lodge. The Pennsylvania law on this point is an exception to general Masonic usage. Perhaps Comp. Edwards would go the whole figure, and claim that they are suspended thereby from all Masonic rights. Again. Suspension of membership is only another term for abeyance of membership, and is legitimately limited to the rights and privileges of membership; or, as we have before said, implies temporary forfeiture of membership. It is logically absurd to say that suspension cannot be qualified by the words ‘from membership,’ or that it must mean in all cases ‘suspension, pure and simple.’

“By special law, suspension for non-payment of dues may be made to mean ‘suspension, pure and simple.’ In that case, to add the qualifying words ‘from membership,’ would be improper. One Grand Lodge (Iowa) has recently decided that a member ‘suspended for non-payment of dues is not suspended from all Masonic rights;’ being driven, doubtless, to that action by the unmasonic assumptions of the one-idea suspensionists.

“A few words in regard to status. Comp. Edwards evades the common law we enunciated on that subject, by sliding off on to the ‘right of visitation.’ And when he says, ‘To the rock she [Massachusetts] owns, and the hub she claims to own, must be added the status of right of visitation, by courtesy, of a suspended Mason,’ etc., he says what he has no authority for saying, and no right to say. A suspended Mason means just as much in Massachusetts as it does in New Jersey; and to convey the idea that we claim the right of visitation even by courtesy for that class of Masons is as senseless as it would be to ‘carry coal to Newcastle-upon-Tyne.’ After such a fearful plunge, we think there must be too much ‘tail to your kite,’ ‘venerable brethren’ of New Jersey,—the flight is downward.

“A great deal of pen eloquence and high-sounding legislation have been expended and aimed against the usage of suspension from membership as a measure of discipline, but it all amounts to just about as much as ‘sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal.’ If Massachusetts, or any other state, chooses to place a delinquent on probation by merely suspending his membership, is there anything uncharitable, unkind, or unmasonic about it? This is all that she does in cases where the delinquent deserves, in her judgment, an opportunity to redeem his privileges in the subordinate where he belongs. Others have the right to exact the pound of flesh or nothing, under the cover of sovereignty, if they choose, but a kind heart will revolt at the act of the exactor.

"The status of such a one should not be that of an outcast, but of an erring brother, whose intention to defraud does not appear. And by the law of love, the law of human kindness, the law of God, and the law of Masonry, he should have 'help, aid, and assistance,' so far as he needs it. Such brethren are not 'Masonic tramps,' going about the country soliciting aid, and claiming the 'right of visitation.' Masonic tramps are generally impostors and deceivers, too lazy to work and earn an honest living. Must worthy men and brethren suffer because of the impositions of the unworthy?"

"But, mark this: no Mason, affiliated or unaffiliated, can make any legal claim on the funds of any Masonic body. Masonic charity is a personal duty the world over,—'I finding him or them worthy.' I may perform that duty, through the medium of the Lodge or Chapter of which I am a member, but neither of them can pass a law that will prevent me from aiding any brother, provided 'I find him worthy.' Therefore, we say, if Masons or Masonic bodies are imposed upon, it is their own fault.

"Now, Comp. Edwards, we have both spoken in meeting, and all we ask, in behalf of Massachusetts, is that she be not misrepresented in her charitable dealing with brethren at home or from abroad.

"On the voluntary principle of our Order, we are both in happy accord; and, with the banner of Freemasonry thrown to the breeze, we will 'up anchor' and sail for the harbor of everlasting repose."

We also cordially agree with the following:—

"Pray tell us why a Grand Chapter should legislate to cut off members 'who shall dimit from a Blue Lodge,' whose dimitts are certificates of good standing as Master Masons? After a Companion becomes a member of a Chapter, nothing but conviction of Masonic offence should deprive him of his membership rights. That is the law in the Blue Lodge; why should it not be the same in the Chapter? If the Chapter chooses to make a law that an unaffiliated Master Mason is thereby disqualified to receive the Capitular Degrees: it has the right to do so,—although we do not believe in the doctrine,—but after he has gained membership as a Royal Arch Mason, the Chapter has no right to deprive him of his membership rights, except for cause, either in the Lodge or Chapter."

M. E. Comp. Albert C. Smith, (26 Tremont St., Boston,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Zeph. H. Thomas, (Box 46, Cambridgeport,) G. Sec'y.

MICHIGAN.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Detroit, January 16th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. William S. Turck, G. H. P.

The past year has been an uneventful one, and peace and prosperity prevail throughout the jurisdiction. He issued Dispensations for four new Chapters. We copy his decisions, as they contain some new points:—

*“Question,—*Brother A. B. petitions to take the Chapter Degrees; a ballot is spread, is found clear, and the Mark Master Degree is conferred. He then applies to receive the remaining degrees, and the question now arises: Some of the Companions understood that a ballot be spread for each degree, and so voted on his application. Did the ballot elect to all the Chapter Degrees?

*“Answer,—*Yes.

*“Question,—*A Companion in good standing and clear on the books presents his petition for a dimit at the regular meeting in March, and his request was refused. At our last regular in September he petitioned the Chapter, asking that his name be dropped from the roll of membership, as he wished to sever his connection with the Chapter and Capitular Masonry, and that he will not ask or expect any benefits therefrom. Is he entitled to his dimit?

*“Answer,—*Yes. Any Companion clear on the books and in good standing is entitled to a dimit. Masonry is not compulsory, but voluntary; a Companion becomes a member of a Chapter of his own free will and accord, and to retain him against his wishes would only have a tendency to create discord and contention.

*“Question,—*A Companion Royal Arch Mason objects to the exaltation of a brother Most Excellent Master, and I refuse to exalt him, but require the objector to file charges (Edict XI), which he does, and trial proceeds upon the charges. A Companion now urges that whether the accused is found guilty and punished or found innocent and acquitted, the objection is not removed by the trial, and claims that whichever way the trial results, I cannot exalt him until the objection is formally withdrawn by the objector; and, farther, that the objection holds good even after the death of the objector.

*“Answer,—*See Article XI., Section 4, of the Constitution, which reads as follows:—

“‘Should objection be made to the advancement of a candidate at any stage of advancement, it shall be the duty of the High Priest to refuse to advance him until such objection be removed.’ Article XII, Section 2, reads: ‘All constitutions or parts of constitutions, edicts or resolutions, and all by-laws and rules of order heretofore adopted by the Grand Chapter, inconsistent with this Constitution, are hereby repealed.’ Those sections were adopted in 1880. Edict No. XI, to which you refer, was adopted in 1872, and is in conflict with the Constitution, and has no place in the Edicts of the Grand Chapter, as it was repealed by Article XII, Section 2. The objection remains even after acquittal by trial. Death is the great leveler and remover of objections, and after he has removed the objector he has removed the objection.

*Question,—*Brother A. B. applies to take the Past Master’s Degree, has received the obligation, and is seated in the Oriental chair; the offices of the Junior and Senior Wardens are vacant; he is requested

to fill them and proceed with business, which he refuses to do, and is removed from the Lodge. He now applies to take the Past Master's Degree. Shall we go on and confer them the same as though he had not been in a Past Master's Lodge?

Answer,—Yes. Confer them in due form.

"The following question was received from a very prominent Mason, with his decision on the same:—

Question,—When is a summons to be issued, or, rather, is it right for a High Priest to issue a regular summons to compel members to attend meetings of the Chapter? I have held that a High Priest should issue a summons only to secure the attendance of Companions to answer any charges which may have been preferred against them, or when something of great importance would require a full attendance, and in that case the High Priest to state the object of the summons.

Answer,—The High Priest has the right to summons any member of his Chapter at any time, but should use that power with discretion and judgment, and not abuse it."

The third of the above decisions shows one of the absurdities of this "objection" business. We certainly never would have imagined that any one would suppose that an objection would hold good after the death of the objector. We also think that an acquittal after due trial should remove the objection. The acquittal shows that the charges are unfounded, and therefore it must be assumed that the reason for the objection fails. An objection should certainly have no more force than a black-ball, and it should lose its force after one year.

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported as follows on the above decisions, and their report was adopted by the Grand Chapter:—

"Of the five questions reported, your Committee are not only unanimously of the opinion that each and all of them are answered in accordance with sound Masonic law, but that the reasons given for these answers are eminently clear and forcible, and yet, lest Companions might possibly otherwise be misled upon one or two points, would make the following citations:—

"In addition to what the Grand High Priest said upon the question of dimits, under *question two*, your Committee would call the attention of members to Section 6, Article IX, of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter.

"Again, in connection with *question four*, your Committee are of the opinion that while it did no harm to *reconfer* the Past Master O. B. upon the rebellious brother, still that it was not really and actually

necessary, but that it was necessary to complete the work so rudely interrupted upon a former occasion."

The following was adopted :—

"RESOLVED,—That the Grand Secretary be and he is hereby authorized and instructed to procure the printing and binding of a sufficient number of blank books, 'Masonic Record of Royal Arch Masons in the State of Michigan,' to supply the several Subordinates, and that the cost of the same be charged to the Subordinate Chapters."

The report on Correspondence is by the Grand Secretary. He has noticed that the rulings on Masonic law are becoming more uniform every year, and he believes that this is in a great measure owing to the reports on Foreign Correspondence.

Canada, for 1882, receives a good notice.

M. E. Comp. George Hill, (Portland,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. William P. Innes, (Grand Rapids,) G. Sec.

MINNESOTA.

The Twenty-first Annual Convocation was held at St. Paul, October 10th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. O. G. Miller, G. H. P.

He reports four new Chapters.

There is nothing of importance to notice in the Proceedings.

The report on Correspondence is by the Grand Secretary, and notices our transactions for 1882.

He believes that there is a marked difference between the prerogatives of a Grand Master and a Grand High Priest ; that the Grand Master has certain rights which are inherent, as being older than any of our written laws, but the Grand High Priest, being the creature of the Constitution, has only such powers as are conferred on him by that instrument. We agree.

He gives their practice when an objection is made to the advancement of a candidate after a clear ballot, which is similar to the usage in this jurisdiction :—

“In Minnesota it is held that the work is in the hands of the High Priest, no new ballot is allowed, if an objection is made privately to the High Priest and he considers it sufficient, he so states to the Chapter without giving names; if he does not deem it sufficient the work proceeds. If the Companion makes his objection known in open Chapter the body decides.”

In his notice of Oregon, he says :—

“That a visitor is legally entitled to an inspection of the charter, is an American idea of comparative recent date. Pennsylvania, District of Columbia, &c., does not recognize the right. What is the object of inspection? ‘to know whether it is a regularly organized body or a spurious one’ How can you tell from inspection? it has signatures, and a seal! in 10,000 Masons, how many are familiar with the signatures? how many know the seal? Signatures are easily written, seals can be readily manufactured, and parchment is purchaseable in any book-store.

“Again, in this age of the world the location of clandestine bodies are so well-known that the demand for the exhibition of the charter in an ante-room borders upon, if not in fact, an insult to the body. * * *

“Granting a Dispensation is an act of the Grand Master, and such bodies have only the powers granted them by the instrument.

“The Grand Master delegates certain of his inherent prerogatives to certain named parties, they are responsible to him, and they have no right to evade that responsibility by affiliations; to initiate, pass and raise is expressly granted in the instrument; technically, those made in a body, U. D., are unaffiliated, but custom allows such parties the same privileges as those to whom the instrument is issued.

“A Dispensation for a Chapter is in all respects similar except that the Grand High Priest has not power of his own volition to issue, he may refuse, but he cannot issue a Dispensation for a new Chapter unless the petition is recommended by the nearest Chapter.”

In reply to Comp. Elgin, of Texas, he says:—

“To the question,

‘Was not the General Grand Chapter founded by Grand Chapters, as the recently-formed General Grand Council was? We reply,

“No; certainly not, but the reverse of the proposition is true; Grand Chapters, or as they were originally termed, Deputy Grand Chapters, were formed under the authority of the General Grand Body, it was the original parent body, and to-day a Grand Chapter can only be formed by and with the consent of the General Grand Officers.

“When did it invent a single degree conferred by the Chapters?

"The when, is not exactly known, nor yet exactly by whom; but the M. E. degree as we have it was first promulgated by the 'Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States.'

"There is a tradition that the degree was the handiwork of the Rev. Jonathan Nye, the same party that gave Jeremy L. Cross the idea of the Broken Column, Weeping Virgin, &c., which he afterwards introduced in the M. M. degree.

"If the General Grand Chapter is the sole owner and maker of those degrees, how is it that we find Grand Chapters in England, Scotland, and in Virginia, Pennsylvania and Canada?

"The Royal Arch Degree, in each of these bodies, differs materially from the American, different basis, nomenclature, ritual, and except Pennsylvania, is younger.

"We have gathered, and answer in brief, Comp. Elgin's enquiries. There was working in the city of New York a Chapter called Washington, its origin is unknown, and history gives but an occasional glimpse of its workings; it claimed and exercised the right of granting charters to work the Royal Arch Degree, independent of the Master's Lodge.

"In 1796 a 'Convention of Committeemen' assembled in Connecticut, and among other matters passed a resolution requesting Washington Chapter not to issue charters unless recommended by the nearest Chapter.

"In October, 1797, under the lead of Thomas Smith Webb, a 'Convention of Committees' from two Chapters in Boston and one in New York, held a meeting in Boston; adopted a circular and appointed a committee to transmit copies to the Chapters in New York and the New England States.

"In January, 1798, a second convention was held, composed of delegates from three Chapters in Connecticut, two from Massachusetts, one from Rhode Island, and three from New York, adopted a constitution, and organized a 'Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America.'

"The Constitution authorized the formation of Deputy Grand Chapters in the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York, the presiding officer to be styled Deputy Grand High Priest.

"At the 'second regular meeting of the Grand Chapter' held at Providence, January, 1799, the Constitution was changed. The body taking the name and style of 'General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the six Northern States of America,' and State bodies to be called 'Grand Chapters,' and the nomenclature as we now have them was promulgated.

"At the next meeting, in 1806, the Constitution was amended, changing the name to that of 'General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America.' It was further enacted, that whenever there were three or more Chapters in a State, instituted by virtue of authority derived from this Constitution, the junior Chapter being one year old, there might be, with the approbation of one or more of the General Grand officers, formed a State Grand Chapter.

Previous to 1798 Chapters worked under the authority of Master's warrants, or by self-constituted authority; the degree of Royal Arch only was conferred, and that upon P. M.; some had two degrees, others three, no system or method and great dissimilarity in the

Royal Arch itself, some had the English, others the Scotch, others the Irish, &c.

"Abundant reasons for a reform.

"After considerable skirmishing around, Webb, Woart, Fowle, Hammer, Nye, &c., succeeded in bringing about a union of Chapters, the organization of a General Head, and the adoption of a new system, new series and new degrees. This system, series, degrees was the property of the Grand Body; it had the right, as it did, to prescribe rules for the dissemination of the degrees; all receiving the degree from that time to this are bound by the rules made.

"We cannot avoid the conclusion that no body, no organization, has the moral right to appropriate the dissemination of the degrees, except under the authority of the General Grand Chapter.

"Refuse to recognize its authority as a governing body, if you please, but then do not use its property.

"It is true that in 1859 it—to use the term of an old Iowa reporter—emasculated itself, surrendered itself as a governing body, but it retained its property in the system. The change in the constitution was due to a want of confidence in each other among Masons, and an ignorance of history. Well do we remember that during the Triennial Convocation at Hartford, in 1856, Comp. Pike during his argument favoring the proposed amendments held up an early edition of Webb's Monitor, remarking: all we know of the origin or early history is contained in a meagre account in this book.

"The events of 1856 set men to delving among the rubbish, and between that date and 1859 sufficient had been discovered to prove that the declaration of the derivation of the powers of the General Grand Body contained in the proposed amendments were not true, the facts, however, were known to but few, fearful of the result of a rejection of the amendments the lesser evil was chosen and the amendments allowed to pass, although in violation of the truth of history.

"On our return from Hartford we were shown the charter of Independent Royal Arch Chapter, No. 2, with the remark that it was defective, DeWitt Clinton's name was signed as *Deputy* Grand High Priest. Why not signed by the Grand High Priest? Who was he? &c. About the same time we were presented with some old documents rescued from a refuse paper warehouse, among them was the proceedings of a 'Convention of Committee' held in 1796, two years before the organization of the Grand, or General Grand Chapter.

"It gave a list of the degrees fixing the price to be charged; here was another curious matter; subsequently we obtained a written copy of the original constitution of 1798 which had never been printed, the deputy matter was explained. In 1860 the Compendium was compiled, printed and distributed; had it been public before 1859, the amendments of that year would not have been adopted."

M. E. Comp. W. J. Hahn, (Lake City,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. A. T. C. Pierson, (St. Paul,) G. S.

MISSISSIPPI.

The Thirty-fifth Annual Convocation was held at Jackson, February 12th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. William Richards, G. H. P.

On the state of the Order, he says:—

“From personal observation, I can inform you of but little on this subject. I have not been able to visit but two Chapters, outside of my own, during the year—Yazoo, No. 8, and Edwards, No. 107. I spent two evenings with the latter Chapter, and witnessed an exaltation, and was much gratified to find them fairly posted and striving to do their work well. I promised myself, a year ago, a good time visiting Chapters during the summer, but the desolation left in the track of the overflow, more than filled my hands elsewhere.

“The Grand Lecturer reports that he has responded to all calls made on him during the year, but sums up only seven Chapters that he has lectured and assisted in exaltations; that open hands and true Masonic hearts greeted him at all points, and trusts that his labors have not been in vain. He reports the condition of Capitular Masonry as far from flourishing, and attributes the cause to the financial depression of the country.

He also reports that two dormant Chapters—one at North Mt. Pleasant, Marshall county, and the other at Cockrum, in DeSoto county—are anxious to re-organize; that they have a good membership, but that their buildings are in need of immediate repair, which they are unable to do and also pay their back dues. He therefore asks that their case be referred to a Special Committee for investigation.

“I have had but two questions propounded to me during the year: 1st. Whether substitution was admissible? 2nd. Whether a Brother was eligible for the Chapter Degrees before being six months a Master Mason?—both of which were answered in the affirmative.”

He recommends a decrease in the mileage and per diem, because it is more than the actual expenses of the delegates. He shows that at six cents per mile each way, and \$3 per day, a delegate coming 125 miles will receive \$7 more than his expenses. He thinks that the rates should be reduced to four cents per mile each way and \$2 per day.

On this subject a minority report was adopted to the effect that the rates be four cents per mile each way, and \$2.50 per day, provided that delegates who come by steamboat, stage or horseback, be allowed six cents per mile each way to the extent of such modes of travel.

The following is the report of the Committee on the state of the Order :—

“Your Committee on the State of the Order beg leave to report : That they have had the same under consideration, and agree with the Grand Lecturer so far as he goes on the reason for the languishing condition of Capitular Masonry, but we suggest as a further reason : A want of sufficient Masonic unity of action between the Companions of subordinate Chapters, brought about by a carelessness which amounts to a violation of a solemn covenant. A further reason : A want of ability of so many officers of Chapters to give the work and lectures properly to applicants, and make the meetings interesting to its members.”

A revised constitution was adopted for reference to the subordinate Chapters and for final action thereon at the next Annual Convocation.

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. W. G. Paxton, and notices Canada for 1882. On insurance he says:—

“We have at no time proposed to benefit Masonry by amalgamation with a Life Insurance Company. The Chapter proposition of which so much is said, ‘died a bornin.’ Certain and sundry of the brethren organized a Masonic Mutual Association. Of this none but Master Masons in good standing, and their wives, widows and daughters, can become members. And the ‘Grand Lodge’ pronounced ‘our work’ ‘good work’ and ‘true work,’ but is in no way pecuniarily liable.”

M. E. Comp. B. T. Kimbrough, (Ashland,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. J. L. Power, (Jackson,) G. Sec’y.

MISSOURI.

The Thirty-sixth Annual Convocation was held at St. Louis, May 3rd, 1883.

M. E. Comp. Erwin Ellis, G. H. P.

He reports the organization of eight new Chapters, the largest number we have noticed as yet.

We copy some of his decisions :—

“*Question*,—A Companion dimits from his Lodge without stating it was for the purpose of joining another Lodge, forming a new Lodge, or with a view of moving out of the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge: how does it affect his standing in the Chapter?

“Answer,—It makes him a non-affiliate at once in your Chapter, and subject to all disabilities as such.

“The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Missouri, in October, 1880, passed the following Amendment to their By-laws: ‘No Lodge shall grant a dimit to any of its members until all dues are paid, and unless the applicant for a dimit state that it is for the purpose of joining another Lodge, forming a new Lodge, or with a view of moving out of the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, the applicant shall be deemed a non-affiliate from the date of said dimit, and subject to all disabilities as such.’

“The Grand Lodge in its wisdom has seen fit to place in the hands of every brother, a means by which he can commit Masonic suicide, and when a brother calls for his dimit under the conditions prescribed, he voluntarily deprives himself of all Masonic privileges, as much so as the Lodge can possibly do. His membership in his Lodge is the foundation of his Masonic Temple, and when the foundation is gone the superstructure is gone also, otherwise you would have the singular condition of a dead Master Mason and a live Royal Arch Mason, a condition that is unreasonable, unmasonic and impossible, and I, for one, heartily endorse such a law. When a brother applies for such a dimit he knows full well what the result is, and he voluntarily withdraws from his Lodge and ends (for the time at least) his Masonic existence. Let him go, and we will wish him God-speed, but we will close the doors of the second story of our Masonic Temple against him.

“Question,—A Companion has been suspended for non-payment of dues by his Lodge; on the books of the Chapter he stands credited with a year's dues in advance: what is his standing in the Chapter?

“Answer,—He is suspended in the Chapter. The question of indebtedness of the Chapter to him has nothing whatever to do with it. * * *

“Statement,—At the time of the election of the officers of our Chapter, it was agreed that we hold a joint installation with our Lodge at the next regular Communication. At the time a few of the officers of our Chapter were present. After the Lodge had elected the officers, they and the officers of the Chapter that were present, were installed. Our Chapter was not opened; in fact, there were not enough members of the Chapter present to open on the Royal Arch Degree.

“Question,—1st. Are the officers elect duly installed? 2nd. If they are, what record am I to make of the installation? 3rd. If they are not the legal officers, who are? 4th. Can a Chapter meet and open at any other place than the one designated in the charter?

“Answers,—1st. The officers are not legally installed and have no right to occupy their stations. 2nd. You cannot make a record of a meeting of your Chapter when it does not meet. 3rd. The old officers. 4th. Not without a Dispensation from the Grand High Priest. (See Section 18, page 33, Constitution and By-laws.)

“Your Chapter may open in their hall, and then repair to some other place for the purpose of installing the officers. But in all cases, your Chapter must meet and open in the place designated in the charter. Section 20, page 17, Constitution and By-laws, provides that all business of the Chapter (other than conferring the subordinate degrees) must be done in the Royal Arch Degrees. I apprehend that no one will claim that the installation of the officers of a

Chapter is not as much a part of the business of a Chapter as the election of them. If it is, how can the officers be duly installed unless the Chapter is opened on the Royal Arch Degree?

"This is the plainly written law of the Grand Chapter, and each High Priest has, in the presence of his Chapter, solemnly promised to support and maintain the Constitution, Laws and General Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Missouri, and called upon his God to witness that promise, and help him to keep it. This is as solemn an obligation, taken in as impressive a manner as any other obligation, and as binding upon him as any obligation can be, and I certainly think that the High Priest who would allow the officers of his Chapter to be installed in any other manner, has certainly never looked up the law on that point, or given it a moment's serious thought, but has simply followed the example of some of his predecessors.

"In the case submitted, it is stated that there were not enough Royal Arch Masons present to open a Chapter. How, I ask, could the officers be duly installed?

"I see no difference in the binding effect of one law of this Grand Chapter from another; and the High Priest has as much authority to open his Chapter with only three Royal Arch Masons present, as he has to install his officers without opening the Chapter. The one is as plainly a written law as the other, and the one is no less a violation than the other; and, it seems to me, that this Grand Chapter should, in emphatic terms, condemn such loose practices."

The first two of the above decisions are opposed to our practice, and we cannot help again remarking that we consider the regulations under which they were made as exceedingly arbitrary and unjust. We have heretofore spoken at length on this question and cannot now go over the ground again, but will simply say that we do not consider it essential to admission into a Chapter that the candidate should be a member of a Lodge, nor that he should lose his membership in the Chapter because he has withdrawn from his Lodge. We require that an applicant for the Chapter Degrees must have been a Master Mason for at least three months, but he need not be an actual subscribing member of any Lodge; and if he is a member of a Lodge, he may take his dimit from it at any time without thereby impairing his standing in the Chapter.

Comp. Ellis condemns the practice of soliciting Master Masons to join the Chapter, which he thinks has grown to such an extent as to become an evil. He is pleased to state

that Capitular Masonry is growing rapidly in Missouri, and peace and harmony prevail.

The following was adopted :—

“WHEREAS,—This Grand Chapter is informed that, at a late Conclave of the Knights Templar of Missouri, a committee was appointed to take into consideration the feasibility of establishing a Masonic Asylum in Missouri, to be the refuge of widows and orphans and needy Masons, and that said committee was instructed to secure, if possible, the co-operation of other Masonic bodies; therefore, be it

“RESOLVED,—That this Grand Chapter hereby expresses its hearty approval of the proposed enterprise, and directs that a committee of five be appointed, of which the Grand High Priest shall be chairman, to confer with the committee appointed by the Commandery in relation thereto.”

The Finance Committee are evidently not afraid to call things by their proper names ; but perhaps “High Art” has not yet found its way to Missouri. In their report, which was adopted, we find the following paragraph:—

“In the matter of painting portraits of those Past Grand High Priests who have not been Grand Masters, your committee, having in view the villainous daubs already on the walls of the Grand Secretary’s office, recommend that no such appropriation be made.”

The report on Correspondence is again by Comp. Mayo, and he treats us to something different from the ordinary method of compiling these reports. In opening, he says:—

“As we do not intend to follow the old stereotyped plan of reviewing each State *in extenso*. and to prevent any one of the corps from feeling aggrieved whose State does not get the extended notice in these pages it merits, we will endeavor to start with a ‘model review,’ if you will allow it, applicable alike to nearly all of the twenty-seven pamphlets—Proceedings of that number of Grand Jurisdictions. We have run through them, from Arkansas to Wisconsin and back again, and we find that there are 3,700 pages, or an average of 137 pages to each pamphlet. Georgia is the smallest, with only twenty-seven pages ; North Carolina the next smallest, with fifty pages ; while our neighbor, Illinois, is the largest, with 300 pages; and that far away Pacific slope, and small jurisdiction, Oregon, ranks second largest, with 236 pages. After a careful perusal of the twenty-seven pamphlets before us, for the year 1882, we will say, in general terms of them, that:—

“The several Grand Chapters met at the time and place prescribed in their By-laws, or agreed upon at a previous Grand Convocation. Grand Officers nearly all present; a very large proportion of subordinates represented; many distinguished visitors received and fraternally entertained; many good speeches of welcome and responses by

visitors and officials. Grand High Priests' Annual Addresses, as a rule, are well prepared papers, rendering faithful accounts of their stewardships; many eloquent and touching tributes to the memories of departed Companions; few decisions, but much good advice and sensible recommendations. Reports on Correspondence, where they appear, nearly all after the old style, compiled principally from choice selections from several States and some gems of comments by able writers. Proceedings consist chiefly of routine business alike common to all jurisdictions, mostly of local interest. Pamphlets generally well printed, on good, heavy paper; some embellished with elegant head lines and tail pieces. Their arrangement and typographical execution are alike creditable to their popular and efficient Grand Secretaries and extensive printing establishments. One of the most commendable features is the growing practice of adorning the proceedings with splendidly executed steel engravings, artotypes and phototypes of distinguished Companions.

"We hope that each and every reader will, when he reads the above, say and think: Well, now, that just fits our Proceedings or our State, and take that much to himself any how, if he or his State gets no more; because it certainly and honestly is intended for all and we positively assert that we have never had the pamphlets of twenty-five different State Proceedings of or for one and the same year so nearly alike as those before us."

M. E. Comp. A. M. Dockery, (Gallatin,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. W. H. Mayo, (St. Louis,) G. Sec'y.

NEBRASKA.

The Sixteenth Annual Convocation was held at Platts-mouth, December 19th, 1882.

R. E. Comp. William H. Munger, Deputy Grand High Priest, presiding in the absence of the Grand High Priest, Comp. Samuel P. Davidson, who had been appointed a Judge, and whose judicial duties prevented his attendance. His address was read, from which we learn that he formed one new Chapter. He thinks that if a suitable fee were to be charged for all Dispensations of the Grand High Priest, it would tend to lessen the frequency of applications for them. He refused several applications for Dispensations to confer the degrees out of time.

The following was adopted:—

"Your committee on Charters and Dispensations would report:—

"That we have examined the report of the Grand High Priest rela-

tive to the issuing of special Dispensations to install officers, etc., and find that the same were issued in compliance with Masonic law and usage; we therefore recommend that the same be approved.

"We further commend the Grand High Priest for refusing to issue Dispensations to receive petitions and confer degrees, etc., 'in less than the constitutional time'; but we recommend that some amendment to our Constitution be made whereby authority shall be given the Grand High Priest to issue Dispensations for such purposes, under proper restrictions as to fees. And we submit the following for consideration:—

"Add to Article IV. of the Constitution, the following section:

"SECTION 9. In the recess of the Grand Chapter the Grand High Priest, or in a proper case the Deputy Grand High Priest, shall have power in his discretion to issue special Dispensations for the following purposes:

"1. To elect and install, or to install officers of a Subordinate Chapter at a time other than that specified in the By-laws.

"2. To receive and act upon petitions for the degrees in less than the required time, or without regard to time.

"3. To exercise such other prerogatives and powers of Dispensation as are recognized as belonging to the office of Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska.

"4. Before the granting of any special Dispensation mentioned in paragraph (1) one of this section, there shall be paid to the Grand High Priest for the use of this Grand Chapter, the sum of five dollars.

"Before granting any special Dispensation authorized by paragraph (2) two of this section, there shall be paid to the Grand High Priest, for the use of this Grand Chapter, the sum of ten dollars."

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. E. F. Warren, and is as usual, written with great ability. He again argues at great length on the question of suspension, but we decline still to be convinced that our practice is wrong or that his views should be accepted by any of those whose practice differs from that of Nebraska. We admit non-affiliated Masons into our Chapters, and will probably continue to do so, and we can still recognize the fact that the suspension of a member from Lodge membership for the simple non-payment of dues is not such an important matter, nor the offence itself such a terrible crime that we are bound by any principle of Masonic equity or justice to exclude a member from his Chapter, when he has been guilty of no Masonic offence cognizable by the Chapter. A Lodge member who has been suspended for non-payment of dues is certainly not in good Masonic standing in his Lodge, and that is all that

is implied in our answer to Comp. Warren last year. He may, however, notwithstanding his deprivation of Lodge membership, be in good Masonic standing in his Chapter, and, with us, he is so, and will be so, until our Grand Chapter shall declare that the non-payment of Lodge dues by a Royal Arch Mason is an offence against the Chapter, or unless the Grand Chapter declares that a member who is suspended for any cause, by his Lodge, shall thereby be suspended in his Chapter. We can scarcely expect Comp. Warren to understand this distinction, as he looks at this matter from such a totally different standpoint from us, but if he continues to cultivate his liberality of thought and opinion, and when his mind becomes enlarged sufficiently to take a broad and comprehensive view of the whole subject, he will then be ready to acknowledge that we are entirely in the right.

He will then see that the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chapter are two totally separate and distinct bodies, that the Grand Chapter is the foundation of all law for its subordinates and for all Royal Arch Masons in its jurisdiction, and that no regulation of a Grand Lodge can affect the relations of a Royal Arch Mason to his Chapter or to the Grand Chapter, until that regulation has been adopted by the Grand Chapter, or sanctioned by the Grand Chapter as being applicable to its subordinates.

Our Grand Chapter is quite competent to regulate the qualifications of our Chapter members. We recognize the Lodge, as our membership is confined to Master Masons. We also exclude from our Chapters those members who have been suspended or expelled for unmasonic conduct by their Lodges, as the offences implied by that term are offences for which the offender could be suspended or expelled from our Chapters if he was not a member of a Lodge, and by a provision in our Constitution, we recognize the finality of the action of the Lodge in such cases. As to the non-payment

of Lodge dues, however, we do not consider that that is a Masonic offence so far as the Chapter is concerned. It is an offence against the By-laws of his Lodge only, and it is not of such a grave character that we should consider we are thereby compelled to ostracize him from the Chapter the same as if he was a felon of the deepest dye. It is a Masonic offence only because it is an offence against the By-laws of a Masonic Lodge and not otherwise. The penalty is suspension from the rights of membership in that Lodge, and it does not affect his standing in his Chapter. *Verbum non amplius addam.*

On the remission of dues to clergymen, he says:—

“It may be well enough to remit Grand Chapter dues to the poor and needy, provided some means can be found to discover who are really such, but we can perceive no reason for exempting ‘ministers of the gospel in charge of congregations.’ Why not also exempt lawyers and physicians in large (or small, as may be deemed best) practice? A minister on a salary of between \$200 and \$10,000 is no more entitled to charity than teachers in the common schools or universities. It’s a bad scheme.”

M. E. Comp. W. H. Munger, (Fremont,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. W. R. Bowen, (Omaha,) G. Sec’y.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Sixty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Concord, May 16th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. Albert S. Wait, G. H. P.

He mentions the death of their venerable Grand Chaplain, Rev. James Adams, who became Grand Chaplain of the Grand Chapter in June, 1861, and held the same position until his death. He was also Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge and Grand Council from 1869 to the close of his life.

On the state of the Craft, Comp. Wait says:—

“The returns from the various Chapters show the Craft to be in

such healthy and vigorous condition throughout our jurisdiction as betoken present prosperity and affords assurance of future usefulness. The present total membership is 2279, against 2220 as shown by the returns of last year; an increase in our members of fifty nine.

"If to swell our numbers from year to year were the main object of our Institution, this increase would not appear large, but when it is considered that Masonry exists for the good it is capable of accomplishing; when we remember that no form of proselyting or seeking accessions to our numbers is allowed, and that our membership consists, and must ever consist, of such from among the best ranks of society, as voluntarily seeking admission among us have passed the required ordeal, this, in such a population as that of our State, is a very gratifying advance in our membership rolls, fully sufficient to justify the hopes of those most devoted to the advancement of the best interests of the Craft.

"The intimate connection which Freemasonry has had with all the interests of civilized man, pervading society in all its forms from a time to which human memory runneth not, affords us the assurance that its prosperity must betoken advance in the social and material welfare of men in every age, while its decadence must as surely mark their decline. The prosperity of our Institution must hence be gratifying to us not only as Masons, but as philanthropists, having at heart the common good of our race."

In order to give our Companions the other side of the suspension question we now give the report of the committee on Jurisprudence, in which it is stated clearly and temperately:—

"The Committee on Jurisprudence has examined the decision made by M. E. G. H. P. Currier, referred to it at the Annual Convocation, May, 1881, which was received too late for consideration at that time, and submit the following report:—

"That decision was 'A Master Mason who has been elected for the degrees conferred in the Chapter, and who has received three of the Chapters degrees, and then receiving notice that he has been suspended by his Lodge for non-payment of dues, is not entitled to the Royal Arch Degree until reinstated by his Lodge.'

"The duty of every Mason to belong to some Lodge and contribute his share towards its support, unless he has sufficient reason to be excused, is unquestioned; and if he refuses to pay such dues he may upon trial and conviction, be adjudged guilty of a Masonic misdemeanor and punished. The penalty is commonly suspension from membership, which is deemed adequate punishment for that offence, and by which the brother is deprived of all the rights and privileges of membership.

"He is said to be somewhat in the situation of a non-affiliate, except that he cannot apply for membership in any other Lodge while under such sentence, or disability of suspension. Having been convicted of a Masonic misdemeanor and received the judgment of the proper tribunal, he is not in good and regular standing, and cannot by any reasonable or sensible view be so regarded while such judgment is in force.

"The practical form of the question before the committee is,—shall a brother who has thus forfeited his rights in the Lodge and is still under judgment for Masonic offence, be deemed worthy to be exalted to the august degree of Royal Arch Mason.

"We are unable to see any difference in principle between such a case and when the offence committed may have been a Masonic crime of worse nature, and when the penalty may have been the severest known to Masonic law. In such cases we don't suppose it would be contended for a moment that the Brother would be deemed fit for exaltation.

"There is no good reason for making any distinction in the application of a general rule which may be found applicable to the government of the degrees under the control of the Royal Arch branch of the Order, and those which remain within the control of the Masters' Lodges. Masonry of the Blue Lodge is the basis of that which follows. 'Master Masonry' is the basis on which 'Royal Arch Masonry is erected,' and if a sound and proper rule can be established in relation to the Blue Lodge, it will be found one which Royal Arch Masonry would neither disregard nor subvert. Such a rule should be observed and followed throughout the 'Masonic family.'

"It has been suggested that a candidate has rights in this—that having been elected to receive the degrees of the Chapter he is entitled to them, &c.,—but those who claim this forget that no candidate has rights respecting the degrees which have not been conferred. 'Rights' in Masonry appertain only to degrees which have been received.

"There is no step in the Masonic way at which a candidate may not be stopped if sufficient reason appear. All practices and claims to the contrary are subversive and in violation of one of the most important principles of the 'Body of Masonry.'

"We need not here discuss the offence of non-payment of dues, or expose the inconsistency of a candidate for the Chapter degrees, desiring to take upon himself greater burdens and to discharge more important duties while neglecting and refusing to meet one of the first that he engaged to perform when becoming a member of the Blue Lodge.

"We assume that the Brother in this case had been legally suspended from membership for the Masonic misdemeanor of non-payment of dues, and that the fact came to the Chapter in a proper manner, and that objection to the candidate's farther advancement rests on that state of facts.

"In our opinion the decision of the M. E. Grand Lodge is sound and good law, and should be sustained. Any other view would lead to serious if not fatal results. If a candidate under suspension from membership or any other sentence in the Lodge, could be balloted for on a petition for the Chapter Degrees, the relations between the Lodge and Chapter might be broken, and all harmony and mutual observance of respective rights destroyed."

It is probably needless for us to say that we do not entirely agree with the above. We agree with the first part of this report, but when they say that they are unable to see

any difference in principle between the non-payment of dues and a crime of the worst nature, then we beg to be excused. We think that there is a very great difference, not only in principle but also in fact.

On the same subject, the following resolution was adopted:

“RESOLVED, That it shall not be lawful for any Chapter within this jurisdiction to receive the petition of any candidate for the degrees conferred therein unless such candidate is a member in good standing in some Lodge of Master Masons.”

We have no fault to find with this resolution. The Grand Chapter has the power and right to specify the requisites to qualify candidates for admission to their Chapters, and if they think that Lodge membership is essential, it is but proper that it should be so laid down, that all may know the rule and observe it.

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. John J. Bell. On a decision from Alabama, that a High Priest may issue a “penal summons,” Comp. Bell says:—

“We presume this is so, as we see of late years many allusions to such a document, especially in the newer States; but, in more than thirty years’ experience as an active member of the Royal Craft, the writer never saw such a document, or heard of one being issued. In his earlier days in Masonry, he was taught that it was the duty of every Mason in every grade to attend the meetings of his Lodge, Chapter or other body when he received notice, verbal, written or other, and might be disciplined for his failure. And we cannot understand how any form of notice or summons, called by any name, can make his obligation greater or should bring surer punishment. It seems to us we are getting too much *red tape* and too fine spun distinctions. However, if our Companions get pleasure in such casuistry, we see no harm, *provided always*, that they do not relax the rule which requires every Mason to attend when notified, in whatever form, or excuse him from punishment on the mere pettifogger’s plea that the notice was not formally correct.”

Canada for 1881 receives due notice.

In his notice of Nevada, Comp. Bell very forcibly says:—

“The Grand Chapter had attempted some system of life membership, and although it has been abandoned, still some of the troubles arising from it still plague its inventors. An outgrowth of the new

doctrine of affiliation, it, too, has had its share in the attempted overthrow of our ancient customs. This has failed, so may all the rest, until the entire freedom of a brother to affiliate with any Lodge or Chapter that may have him, and his equal freedom to remain unaffiliated, if he so chooses, is everywhere conceded. And then if Lodges and Chapters will abandon the business of being almoners of other peoples' charities, and leave the assistance of the needy brother to the covenanted care of individual brethren, those covenants will receive added vitality, and the institution be in less danger of falling into the slough of mere health or life insurance."

We are glad to notice that Comp. Bell does not agree with the Committee on Jurisprudence, whose report is quoted above. From his reply to Comp. Patton, of Oregon, we should judge that the former custom of the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire was opposed to the views promulgated by the Committee on Jurisprudence:—

"Our Companion has decided views on affiliation and the usage once universal of deeming affiliation or non-affiliation as equal in their effect on Masonic standing, and he deems the suspension or deprivation of membership for non-payment of dues as quite as destructive of Masonic character as expulsion for murder, or robbery, or rape. He seems to have something of the view of Draco, that the smallest offences deserve death; and he can do no more for the greatest. He would stigmatize the practice of all our New England Grand Lodges, although in unison with every Grand Lodge or body of Masons outside of the United States, as merely local and provincial, and therefore wrong. He must bear with us if we hesitate to change customs which have existed time immemorial, and have been regarded as the peculiar glory of our institution, and among the wisest features which the fathers implanted in it, for the new and untried methods of the newer West, especially when their experience seems to us so disastrous."

In the same review we find the following:—

"We are glad to agree with him also in his opposition to the proposal to engraft some form of so-called insurance on our beloved institution. Such schemes, whether useful or not in other places and with other societies, are out of place in Masonry. With his urging the duty of Masonic hospitality we are again at one with our Companion. Every visitor to our Chapter should be made to feel that he is no stranger, but that he is with brothers and Companions, not by merely formal introduction and *words* of welcome, but by that earnest and sincere cordiality which shall make him feel that he is *at home* with us."

"He thinks 'the right of Masons visiting to vote on all applications for the degrees' to be 'clearly established by reference to the usage in early times.' But that was before the establishment of permanent Lodges, and the taking away of the right one of the first encroachments upon the rights of the Craft who are not members of Lodges,

which in the end seem likely, as in California, to-deprive them of all rights whatever. It may well be doubted whether the minority of Masons, and if the truth were known they would be found to be in the minority, who have banded in Lodges, have any right thus to rob their fellows."

"Pennsylvania started the arrogant assumption that the Brethren and Companions of some other jurisdictions did not properly discipline their members for the heinous offence of non-payment of dues, and that it would therefore, so far as lay in its power, remedy the matter by inflicting an additional penalty itself. Our Companion in justification says: 'We have never been able to discriminate between the violation of one obligation and that of another.' Draco again. Grant that our Companions there do deem that the non-payment of dues deserves Masonic death, why should they reach out here, and, assuming our short-coming in that we think differently, attempt to punish Masons here in addition to the penalty that our laws inflict for the offence. If this is submitted to, how long will it be before they will find some other offence in the punishment of which they deem us too lenient,—for we do see great difference in the enormity of offences, and in other cases inflict penalties which, to us, seem adequate, although by no means so heavy as those applied to yet other offences,—and correct our judgment in these cases also. Do our Companions there remember how the streets of a certain city were said to be kept clean." * * *

"Our Grand Lodge declares that the punishment for non-payment of dues shall extend no further than suspension, or deprivation of Lodge membership, and this regulation has always obtained here, as it has in the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, from which the authority of our earlier Lodges was derived, and the Grand Lodges in England, from which most of American Masonry came. Avowedly, the object of this legislation was to prevent particular Lodges from depriving Masons of their rights and standing as such, for not paying dues to the Lodges of which they might be members, and Masons, whose membership in Lodges was thus suspended or forfeited, have here always been regarded as unaffiliated Master Masons, in like good standing with other unaffiliated Masons. Pennsylvania, California, and some other Grand Chapters have recently added a clause to the Tyler's obligation, requiring visitors to declare that they have never been suspended, deprived of membership, or dropped from the roll for non-payment of dues. Now, some Grand Lodges have prescribed the penalty of suspension from Masonic rights for this cause, and some have so far deviated from the original aim and purpose of Masonry as to declare unaffiliates suspended. With the policy of such legislation we have nothing now to do, and it is now too late to contest the legality of such legislation, although it works a complete subversion of the nature and character of Masonry, and we fear will yet be found to be a fatal error to the Craft. In jurisdictions which denounce these penalties, the Mason thus suspended is suspended equally in Chapter as well as Lodge, but no addition was needed to the Tyler's obligation to reach them. This new provision was intended only for those jurisdictions which admit that a member suspended for non-payment of dues is a Mason in good standing, although not a member of a Lodge. It is in effect saying to such, 'You are too lax

in your discipline, and we will correct your ignorance or your wilfulness by inflicting as far as lies in our power the proper penalty.' Now such an imputation is justly highly offensive to us. We are unwilling to suffer under the imputation that we are lax in discipline, either from ignorance or any other cause. We claim to be able to show as true Masons and as honorable gentlemen in our Lodges as can be found anywhere; and to know what belongs to Masonry, and is for its good in this jurisdiction, better than any outside of our state can know. We have reason to believe that our course in this matter was universally followed not many years ago, and is that of the great majority of Grand Lodges in the world now, and we earnestly protest against that arrogance which would attempt to make the local and peculiar legislation of a few states the law of this jurisdiction against our will. The growth of particular permanent Lodges has, since 1717, been a continued encroachment upon the rights of the individual Mason; we may have to submit to the current, and be compelled to assent to acts which to us seem unwise, but that assent will not be hurried by such imputation upon our honesty, or our courage, as those acts of our sister jurisdiction contain. We concede the right to our companions to choose their own society, and admit as visitors whomsoever they will, but when they assign such a reason for refusing fraternal intercourse with Companions from New Hampshire, they seem to us to be wanting in that fraternal courtesy which is due among Companions of the Royal Art. Nor do they make it any better when they say they know of only one kind of suspension, that 'suspension is suspension,' etc., for such excuse is but saying to us 'You shall use the term suspension in no other sense than we choose to give it, and you shall not qualify it by any limitation.' Nor is this excuse more than subterfuge, for their regulation includes dropping from the roll, etc., in which that term is not found. No, the animus of the regulation is an attempt to force us to change our law, because they have seen fit to change theirs.

"We might justly doubt the policy of this modern notion of the enormity of not paying dues, and the legislation based upon it. There is good reason for supposing, as has been shown by Companion Drummond, that so far from alleviating the evil of non-affiliation, against which it is aimed, it has only aggravated it. But we need not discuss that question; we believe in *Free* Masonry and the old dogma, 'Once a Mason always a Mason,' in which we have been instructed by the fathers of Masonry."

Comp. Bell will have to take care of his own Grand Chapter, as it appears to be in danger of going astray after strange gods.

M. E. Comp. Charles N. Towle, (Concord,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. George P. Cleaves, (Concord,) G. Sec.'y.

NEW JERSEY.

The Twenty-sixth Annual Convocation was held at Trenton, September 13th, 1882.

At the opening, the following ode was sung:—

“SORROWING, YET NOT WITHOUT HOPE.

“Composed and inscribed to the fragrant memory of Thomas J. Corson. By M. E. Companion Rob. Morris. By special request of M. E. Companion I. Layton Register, Grand High Priest.

“No! though the grave hath claimed our best,
No! though the green sprigs mark his rest,
Weeping we cry with chastened faith,
Trust in the Lord, and conquer death.

No! though a seat is vacant here,
No! though his voice no more may cheer,
Upward we cast the eye of love,
Lost to the earth but safe above.

How through long years of wasting pain
Bright burned his soul and fired his brain;
In this dear place he loved to be—
Here keep his name eternally.

Brethren, be strong, for life's demand
Boldly endure and bravely stand;
From his bright life example take—
From his blest grave let hopes awake.”

The business transacted was entirely local.

The report on Correspondence is by Comp. George B. Edwards. In his notice of Kentucky, he says:—

“Like many others who have given the subject due consideration, Companion Bassett attaches much of the cause of the existence of ‘so many feeble and comatose Chapters’ to ignorance of the ritual and slovenly rendering of the work. Is not this state of things so general in Royal Arch Masonry at a distance from the large centres, where competitive influences tend to the achievement of excellence of rendition, that, where this latter exists, it is so marked as to call forth special mention by the visitor, and is manifest in the pride of superiority on the part of the members?

“With rituals whose beauty of language and illustration of design are, perhaps, unequalled, certainly unsurpassed, by any contemporary society; with an exposition of truths that are unchallengeable; a symbolism pointing practical exemplification in daily life of virtue and the most important principles that affect the existence of man in his individuality, and in his relations to his Creator and his fellow-creatures; with incidents illustrative of some of the most sublime events that have been vouchsafed during the world's history; with

form and ceremonial that have been adopted from the practices of the earliest ages; with a mysticism that invites, and an exclusiveness that gratifies personal desire; with rewards and honors awaiting those that excel—why is it that so few give to the institution their best efforts?

“The mere payment of yearly dues and the occasional attendance at Communication or Convocation are not the sum of a Mason’s duty.”

M. E. Comp. Charles L. Chovey, (Madison,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. George B. Edwards, (Jersey City,) G. Sec’y.

NEW YORK.

The Eighty-sixth Annual Convocation was held at Albany, February 6th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. James D. Pollard, G. H. P.

From the very able and most interesting Address of the Grand High Priest, we are glad to make the following extracts:—

“From all the information I have been able to obtain, I gather that no material change has taken place in the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in this State during the past year, but that the year has been a fairly prosperous one and the general rendition of affairs slightly improved.

“The year has been quiet and uneventful, but our Chapters have generally done more work than last year, and are looking forward to a still greater improvement in the year now opening before us.”

“On the first day of May, 1882, in response to a communication from Comp. Jerry Shallish, of Charles H. Platt Chapter, No. 247, I decided:—

“That where the High Priest of a Chapter is present in a Lodge at the time of the suspension of a brother, who is also a member of the Chapter, such personal knowledge is sufficient to authorize and require him to exclude such Companion from all Chapter privileges; and that a Convocation of a Chapter at which only nine were present, one of whom was a Companion so known to be suspended in the Lodge, would be irregular and its proceedings void.” * * *

“At the close of the last Annual Convocation I received a petition from the necessary number of Companions, accompanied by the consent of the nearest Chapter (Poughkeepsie), asking that a Dispensation be issued to form a new Chapter at Millerton, Dutchess County, and on the 24th of February, after careful examination and consultation by letter with prominent Craftsmen in that region, I felt compelled to refuse the application.

“On the first day of October, 1882, I received a petition from the

necessary number of Companions, accompanied by the consent of the nearest Chapter (Hornellsville), asking that a Dispensation be issued to form a new Chapter at Cansteo, Steuben County, and on the 25th of October, after careful examination and consultation as before, I refused to issue the Dispensation.

"Both of these applications were refused for the reason that I was not able to satisfy myself that efficient and successful Chapters could be maintained at those points; and with the examples of Griswold, Doric, and Deer River Chapters, as referred to in this report, immediately before my eyes, and my personal knowledge of many other Chapters in not much better condition, I felt that the establishment of any more weak Chapters would be an injustice to the Grand Chapter without being any lasting satisfaction to the local Companions.

"I am aware that my action in refusing to grant the desired Dispensations is a departure from the usual custom, and will possibly provoke unfavorable and adverse criticism; but I assure you that in neither case was my decision biased by any personal consideration, and that they were denied only for the reason above given, and if the Grand Chapter shall deem it advisable to warrant Chapters at those places, no one will rejoice more heartily at their future success and prosperity than myself.

"I have also received two applications for permission to hold the annual election of Chapters at an earlier time than that fixed by the Constitution, being cases where the election would fall on Christmas night, which were refused, for the reason that I held that I had not the power to give such permission. * * *

"In pursuance of Section 3 of the General Regulations, the Grand Council, before leaving Albany at the last Annual Convocation, divided the State into convenient districts for the dissemination of the ritual, and such divisions, with the names of the Companions appointed as Assistant Grand Lecturers, were furnished to the several Chapters at an early day by circulars from the Grand Secretary and the Grand Lecturer.

"Immediately after the last Convocation the Grand Lecturer, by my direction, visited me at my home, and we spent several days in going over the work, comparing it with the 'Standard' as heretofore practised in this jurisdiction, and satisfying ourselves that it had been at all points brought into perfect uniformity with the ritual as laid down by the General Grand Chapter of the United States at the Triennial Convocation of 1880.

"We found a few errors, mostly clerical, and after examining it until we were both thoroughly satisfied, I instructed the Grand Lecturer to impart the work in that form, and that only, and to be especially careful to ascertain that all of his assistants were in possession of the true and entire work before they began their labors as instructors.

"I have seen all of the degrees worked under the amended ritual in Chapters in various parts of the jurisdiction, and in every case they have seemed to give the utmost satisfaction and pleasure to all the Companions, both old and young. The older members finding the beauty of the work preserved in the use of the old words that they knew and loved so well, and the younger ones delighted with the symmetry, the sharp decisive action, and the perfect smoothness of the completed ritual.

"It was well for this Grand Chapter that the changes required by the General Grand Chapter came at the particular time that they did, for it is only once in a generation that the man could have been found who could have wrought the various items of difference so harmoniously into the fabric of our work with so little jar or change of form, weaving the new into the old so deftly and with such excellent discretion, that even the most skillful among you can hardly detect the places where the hand of the cunning workman has diverted the old and new threads into the patterns and designs laid down for us by the supreme authority; and so long as our present Standard shall be taught and worked in our Chapters, which I trust and believe will be for scores of years, so long will it ever be a constant testimonial to the intelligence, the scholarship, the ability and the zeal of Past Grand High Priest William T. Woodruff.

"The Grand Chapter of New York has never claimed (whatever it may have thought) that it was in possession of the genuine and only original standard of work, but it has always been our pride and boast that our Standard as adopted has been more thoroughly disseminated, and has been worked with a greater degree of accuracy and uniformity by all our subordinates than has been reached by any of our sister jurisdictions. To this fact, in my judgment, has been largely due the interest in and the success of Royal Arch Masonry in this State; for wherever our Companions have visited within our borders, as soon as they entered a Chapter, whether it was the strongest or the humblest of our number, they have found themselves at once at home in their recognition of the old familiar words. Believing this as I do, and, therefore, recognizing the necessity that the changes in our work should be brought to the attention of all the Chapters at the earliest possible moment, in order that we may all again move forward together in harmony and uniformity as in past years, I deem it of the utmost importance that there should be a full and careful exemplification of the ritual during the present Annual Convocation, if the finances of the Grand Chapter will possibly permit the taking of the necessary time.

"Coming, as I do, from a small country Chapter, I know very well from experience how limited are the opportunities of the officers of such Chapters for acquiring the work correctly, and how much of valuable time is required, and unavoidable expense incurred in order to see the work of even one other Chapter beside their own. And judging from my own feelings and desires when I was presiding as High Priest of a Chapter, I believe that to the greater portion of the representatives present, the time spent in exemplifying the work will be deemed the most worthily employed hours of the session, and that the results will be more valuable to the Craft, than those from any other business of this Convocation.

"In order that there might not be any practical obstacles in the way, if the Grand Chapter should coincide with my views on this subject, and the pecuniary conditions should be favorable, I gave the Grand Lecturer due and timely notice that he must be prepared to exemplify the degrees of Mark Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch at this Convocation if the Grand Chapter should so desire, and he informs me that he has selected his assistants, and is ready to exemplify either or all of those degrees if the Companions wish it to be done.

"While on this subject matter, I also desire to say that if your amended ritual pleases you, it would be well to take some measures to preserve it unimpaired, as I am satisfied that heretofore it has been the custom of most Grand Lecturers to make such minor alterations in the ritual, as taught by them, as seemed to their individual tastes to be improvements; and when there is a frequent change of Grand Lecturers, the changes in the work become kaleidoscopic in their variety if not in their beauty. Now I am not of those who consider that a parrot-like rendition of the work is either desirable or commendable, or that the changing of a few words to make a sentence plain or grammatical, is equivalent to a removal of the ancient landmarks, but I do most firmly believe that even the foolishness of the ritual, if I may so speak, is wiser than the wisdom of most of those who would recklessly tamper with it, and that the work of the Fathers', as handed down to us, represents the fruits of the intelligent labors and ripe scholarship of many generations, and should be altered only after due examination, and by the authority of the Grand Chapter itself.

"With the idea, therefore, of preserving the work from unimportant changes, I recommend that there be added to the Standing Committees of this Grand Chapter, a Committee on Ritual, to whom shall be referred all questions in relation to and proposed changes of our standard work, and that only on their report and the subsequent action of the Grand Chapter shall any additions or emendations be authorized.

"In this connection I would mention that the Grand Lecturer has prepared an abridgment or condensation of the lectures, brought down to such reasonable space as that they can be easily taught and committed to memory, (being especially intended for us in the examination of visitors), which I have examined and think excellently well fitted for their intended purpose, but the use of which I have declined to approve or authorize, on the principle of non-interference hitherto enunciated, until they had been presented to the Craft in Annual Convocation; I understand that they are to be presented here, and I think they would form a good basis on which the Committee on Ritual could commence operations, should you deem such a committee desirable."

The returns show an increase of members during the past year, the number now being 15,159. In view of the fact that for the previous six years a large decrease had been reported annually, the increase last year may be taken as a gratifying indication of an improvement in the general condition of the Royal Arch.

The Rules of Order were amended so as to provide for the appointment of a committee of five, to be called the Standing Committee on Rituals.

The following were adopted as general regulations:—

"A petition for affiliation may be received and acted upon by a Subordinate Chapter, while the petitioner is still a member of another Chapter, but the change of membership shall not be complete until the petitioner's dimit shall be presented to the Chapter so petitioned and the petitioner shall have signed its by-laws.

"A Subordinate Chapter may employ as acting Tyler, any affiliated Royal Arch Mason in good standing."

The Report on Correspondence is again by Comp. Darius A. Ogden, and it is written with his usual first-class ability. In his notice of Alabama, he has the following remarks on the necessity of the Warrant being present in open Chapter:—

"Commenting on Indiana he refers to the subject of the actual presence of the Charter in opening Chapters. Comp. Pillans without doubt religiously and superstitiously believes that the presence of that document is indispensable; but it is quite as clear that he is mistaken, and, if such there should be, and such a thing there has been and will be, that a Chapter should be opened while the Charter was in the safe of the High Priest outside the Chapter room. the world will not come to an end, nor the pillars of the Grand Old Masonic Temple be thrown down or destroyed. Masons everywhere will come, more and more, to think and believe and act too, that it is enough that the Warrant exists, and that, whenever, if in rightful custody, it may be in or outside the Chapter, it has validity, and that to hold that it must be actually present, is not essential. The Charter is but a record, an attested paper, necessary to empower organization and action. It is entirely unlike the Holy Writings, which are the sure foundation and the living waters, a revelation from the Great I Am, or of the square and compasses, which are symbolical, speaking like the Holy Word to the mind and heart, and impressing spiritual lessons which can only be communicated by sight and hearing. They are in the Chapter room to speak, as can in no other way be done, to the candidate as he progresses in light and knowledge. The Charter has no such work or office; it has performed its part when the Chapter was organized, and so long as duly preserved it is ever active to keep alive, not the spirit and soul and essence of Masonry, but the outer organization which gives it manifestation. The marriage relation is just as sacred, and as sacredly maintained and effective if the marriage certificate is hid away among the cherished and valuable records of the family. Rest assured, Comp. Pillans, that Comp. Lewis is sound on the subject, and feels neither desire nor intention to retract or even modify his views. And the most that Comp. Drummond has said is, that as a question of expediency, it is better to have the Charter present, but, that as a legal question there is no such necessity; and that a degree conferred without it would be just as good a degree as if the Charter was actually present."

Canada for 1882 receives a good notice.

We agree with his views on the right of an applicant to

withdraw his petition before the investigating committee have made their report thereon, as we find them expressed in his notice of New Jersey:—

“The following, and the only decision made during the year of any importance, covers a mooted point:—

“‘A petition may be withdrawn with the unanimous consent of the Chapter before the investigating committee have reported, but not afterwards.’

“This decision is, in our judgment, partly right, but does not cover the whole ground—it should not require the consent of the Chapter. If a candidate should change his mind before action on his petition, why should he not have the right to withdraw it? To us it has always seemed just and proper, as well as the right of the Brother to withdraw his application, and we cannot see why unanimous consent of the Chapter should be required. The act must be voluntary on the part of the petitioning Brother. His right to retire by dimit after initiation is conceded, and why then should he not have the right, before a report or ballot takes place, to withdraw it. After an acceptance there is no power to compel initiation, if not desired; and it would be neither Masonic nor neighborly to hold a position simply to blackball and work injury thereby.”

We also copy his conclusion:—

“In our own jurisdiction a small speck has appeared upon the horizon, doubtless intended to awaken and breed a storm, but which has not become so large even as ‘a man’s hand,’ and which has disappeared, leaving a clear and serene sky, full of promise of calm and content for the future. We refer to an effort to revamp and revive the old Morgan story of more than half a century ago; but the effort though embellished with affidavit, and a widely spread post mortem publication, fell abortive and stillborn, exciting in the public feeling apparently nothing but contempt. Although artfully called and bidden the fell spirit of anti-Masonic hate and animosity refused to come forth; and the only effect has been to demonstrate the fact that Freemasonry has the confidence and esteem of the public, and that the bitter strife and hatred of the past cannot be resurrected.

“In this connection we here give the official proceedings of the Grand Chapter of New York at the Convocation held February 10, 1827, —not so much as a vindication of the Royal Arch Masons of the State, as an authoritative and official expression of the feelings and sentiments, expressed at the first opportunity after the infamous charge of aiding and abetting in the abduction and murder had been made and promulgated. These grand principles and noble sentiments, uttered more than fifty years ago, are none the less true now than they were in 1827; they inhere in the very system and nature of Free and Accepted Masonry and are the same yesterday, to-day, and forever. They form the base and are the key to the solid and imperishable arch upon which in security and safety the great Fraternity rests, at all times, amid all trials and under all circumstances, and which will continue to uphold it in the future, as it did and has upborne and

vindicated it amid the fierce storms and vindictive hatred and opposition of the past.

"IN GRAND CHAPTER.

"FEBRUARY 6TH, 1827.

"Grand Chapter met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened on the Royal Arch Degree.

"Present: Officers and members as before.

"On motion of Comp. Johnson, it was

"RESOLVED,—That a committee of seven members be appointed to report what measures are proper to be adopted, relative to the affair of William Morgan.

"Comps. Richard Pennell, Benjamin P. Johnson, Jacob Gould, Cornelius Masten, Richard L. Smith, N. F. Beck, and Daniel White, were appointed said committee.

"FEBRUARY 10TH, 1827.

"The Grand Chapter met pursuant to adjournment.

"Present: Officers and members as before.

* * * * *

"The committee appointed by resolution of the Grand Chapter, on the affair of William Morgan, made the following report, which was accepted, and the preambles and resolutions adopted :—

"That they have attended to the duties assigned them, and that from the highly agitated and inflamed state of public feeling on this subject, and from the false and undeserved imputations which have been thrown upon Freemasons and the Masonic Order generally, your committee deem it proper that this Grand Chapter should make a public expression of its sentiments in relation to the affair alluded to. Your committee, as expressive of their views on this subject, would offer for the consideration of the Grand Chapter the following:—

"WHEREAS,—The rights of personal liberty and security are guaranteed by the free Constitution under which we, the members of this Grand Chapter, in common with the rest of our fellow citizens, have the happiness to live; and

"WHEREAS,—We esteem the preservation of these rights of vital importance to the perpetuity and full enjoyment of the blessings of our republican institutions; and

"WHEREAS,—The community has lately witnessed a violation of the same under the alleged pretext of the Masonic name and sanction, in the case of William Morgan, and

"WHEREAS,—The principles of our Ancient and Honorable Fraternity contain nothing which, in the slightest degree, justify or authorize such proceedings; but, on the contrary, do, in all their tenets and ceremonies, encourage and inculcate a just submission to the laws, the enjoyment of equal rights by every individual, and a high and elevated spirit of personal as well as national independence, therefore,

"RESOLVED,—By this Grand Chapter, that we, its members, individually and as a body, do disclaim all knowledge or approbation of the said proceedings, in relation to the abduction of said William Morgan; and that we disapprove of the same, as a violation of the majesty of the laws, and an infringement of the rights of personal liberty secured to every citizen of our free and happy republic.

"Here we rest the case and are content to abide the result There

is nothing in the spirit, the purposes, the tenets, obligations or teachings of Masonry which would or could encourage, give aid or comfort, sympathy or support to crime, in any form or of any kind, or shield from just punishment its perpetrators. Free Masonry does inculcate charity, relief, unity, and brotherhood; it does minister to the wants of the needy and suffering; does shield and sustain the weak, helpless, and innocent; but nowhere and in nothing, neither at the altar nor in the sanctum, neither in lecture nor in obligation, neither by precept, by example, by tie nor promise, does it tolerate, sanction, incite, permit or encourage wrong doing or crime against either law or society, or public or private rights. However misguided and fallible the weak and over zealous may at times be, their words or deeds in no way impair or disturb the truth and substance of our statement; and here we are content to rest the question and leave the Craft, entirely confident that it will outride every storm, and in the end overcome every opposing obstacle and prove itself worthy of the esteem and confidence of the true and good. In the past, the great, the best, most loved and honored of earth have reverently bowed at its altars, assumed its vows, adhered to and inculcated its precepts, practiced its virtues, and been faithful to its obligations, and so will they continue to do so long as truth, fraternity, and good will shall abide among men."

We have extracted so much from this valuable pamphlet that we have no room for comments. To give a fair chance for criticism, our New York Companions should give us less interesting matter.

M. E. Comp. James D. Pollard, (Seneca Falls,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Christopher G. Fox, (Buffalo,) G. Sec'y.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Wilmington, May 30th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. James Southgate, G. H. P.

The drought of last year prostrated nearly every interest in the State, and the present state of Capitular Masonry is not very bright, as shown by the following extracts from the Address of the Grand High Priest:—

"From the letters and other information in my possession, I conclude that in every community where Blue Lodge Masonry has declined, Capitular Masonry has also declined. Like the Siamese Twins, one is wholly dependent upon the other. Nor does this seem at all strange,

Companions, when the one is the foundation of the other, and the Lodge is, so to speak, the heart and lungs of the Chapter.

"It is indeed sad to contemplate the fact that the fires which burned brightly on so many altars in different parts of the State, should have gone out. Let us hope that embers enough remain from which to rekindle some of these fires, and that ere long the rubbish will be removed from the old ruins preparatory to erecting new temples, where Companions may assemble and promulgate the beautiful teachings of our noble art."

"In reviewing the labors of the past year as Grand High Priest, I am free to confess that there is much to discourage. A deadly apathy seems here and there to have fallen upon those who in days gone by were our best workers. To shake off this apathy will require almost superhuman effort. Internal dissensions have rooted out interest in many Chapters, and you will find where brotherly love is wanting, and every moral and social virtue does not cement, a fearful discord which lifts high the danger signal. I have devoted much of the time in endeavoring to ascertain the status of the Royal Craft, and think something has been done to increase that interest among the Craft which will eventuate in good."

On this subject the Committee on the Address reported as follows:—

"2. In regard to dormant and extinct Chapters within this jurisdiction, we recommend the continuance of the plan heretofore suggested of constituting the Grand Council, and the Deputy Grand High Priest as a Committee on the State of the Order, and we respectfully suggest that the other members of that committee shall enter as zealously into the work of reviving Capitular Masonry in North Carolina as seems to have been done by the present efficient Grand High Priest."

The fee for a Warrant for a new Chapter was reduced from ninety dollars to twenty-five dollars, by an amendment of the Constitution requiring a two-thirds majority.

There is no Report on Correspondence.

M. E. Comp. James Southgate, (Durham,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Donald W. Bain, (Raleigh,) G. Sec'y.

OHIO.

The Sixty-sixth Annual Convocation was held at Newark, September 20th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. Daniel A. Scott, G. H. P.

He visited a number of Chapters and found all in a healthy

condition, accurate in the work, growing in numbers, and actuated by the true principles of the Craft.

In his Address he gives the following good advice to the presiding officers of Chapters:—

“Permit me here to urge upon all who are elected High Priest the duty which they owe, not only to their respective Chapters, but to the fraternity at large, the necessity of becoming more familiar with the Constitution and Laws of the Order, that they may be more capable of settling questions that are constantly arising. Perhaps no institution has conferred powers so despotic upon its presiding officers as ours. This being true, how important it is that we should elect only the most fit for these positions, who would study the laws and decisions of the Order, so as to settle at least questions that are already settled. And as a means of improving this state of affairs, I would respectfully recommend, that in the Chapter as in the Lodge, a candidate be required to familiarize himself with each preceding degree before he is permitted to advance higher. The Chapter is now looked upon in many places as a short halting place to step into the Commandery. The ritual is barely communicated to the candidate in a hurried and oftentimes not a very clear manner, and at the conclusion in nine cases out of ten he is unable to make himself known as a Royal Arch Mason. I feel confident that your approval of this recommendation would result in great good to Capitular Masonry within this jurisdiction.

“Several applications for Dispensations have been made to me to permit Chapters to hold meetings at other places within their respective jurisdictions, other than their legal sites. All such applications I have refused to grant. I would, however, ask your consideration of the propriety of granting such Dispensations, providing that at all times a suitable Masonic Lodge-room could be obtained.”

The Committee on Grievances had nothing brought before them.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

“RESOLVED, That this Grand Chapter heartily endorses the movement inaugurated by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Ohio at its last annual communication, in appointing a committee to establish a Grand Masonic Library for the Masons of Ohio.

“RESOLVED, That the Secretary of this Grand Chapter be, and is hereby, authorized and instructed to place at the disposal of said Grand Library Committee, for the benefit of said library, duplicate of all proceedings of this Grand Chapter, as well as a copy of the accumulation of proceedings of other Masonic bodies, magazines, pamphlets, etc., that may be in his possession as Grand Secretary.”

Comp. Henry P. Fowler, from Select Committee on Proficiency of Candidates for Degrees of the Chapter, made report as follows, to wit:—

"Your special committee appointed to examine so much of the Grand High Priest's address recommending that in the Chapter as in the Lodge, 'a candidate be required to familiarize himself with each preceding degree before he is permitted to advance higher,' recommend:

"First—That no Chapter shall confer the Mark Master's degree upon any candidate until said Chapter is satisfied from actual examination by a committee appointed for that purpose, and that the candidate is proficient in the preceding degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry.

"Second—That a special committee of three be appointed to prepare lectures for the several degrees of the Chapter, and submit the same to this Grand Chapter at its next stated convocation for approval.

"Third—That before advancement the candidate shall be examined as to his proficiency in the preceding degree (as in the Lodge).

The first clause of above report was adopted, and second and third clauses were laid over until the next annual convocation for action.

A committee of three was appointed to prepare lectures for the several degrees of the Chapter, and to present them through their representatives at the General Grand Chapter at its next meeting for approval.

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. J. Kelly O'Neill. Our Proceedings were not received.

In his notice of Arkansas, he says:—

"Companion Thornburgh says he has not been called upon to make a single decision worthy of report; and is in doubt whether this is an indication of extreme harmony or a want of vitality. And we are in doubt. Does this mean that a whole year has passed without the Grand High Priest of a State being called upon by an officer of some Subordinate Chapter to state what the Constitution or general regulations, which he has sworn to support and enforce, but has never read, say upon a particular subject? If it does, then we are compelled to believe that there are, at least in Arkansas, Royal Arch officers who do not forget an obligation as soon as it is taken, and that the millennium approaches."

We are also glad to copy his excellent remarks on the mercenary features sometimes attempted to be engrafted upon the Masonic Order. They deserve to be remembered all the time:—

"Enforced charity—legal liability to relieve distress is no part of the Masonic system, nor in accord with its teachings or principles.

It recognizes the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man; and seeks to cultivate the finer feelings of its members, to make of mankind one family, all of whom shall recognize that the highest reward that can be secured is the consciousness of doing good. The mutual benefit plan—the insurance idea—the fixed amount of relief, the payment of which may be enforced by proceedings in the civil courts, has no touch of charity, and when, if ever, such a system is adopted by the Ancient Order its excellence and its glory is gone. The idea of pecuniary benefit and true Masonic feeling are wholly inconsistent. And those who seek to enter its portals for any purpose other than social, moral, and intellectual improvement are actuated by unworthy motives and should always be rejected. Masonry is not a popular institution; and its value is not to be estimated by the number of its initiates, but by the character of its members; and a mere quorum exceeds in value to the institution and to mankind, hundreds who are actuated by mercenary motives."

He fully agrees with our views on the effect of Lodge discipline on Chapter membership:—

"Membership and Masonic standing are not inseparable; dimission severs the former but does not affect the latter; suspension affects the standing but leaves the membership untouched; while expulsion destroys both. The right to visit belongs to every Mason, and unless forfeited by unmasonic conduct should never be denied. What is sufficient to deprive a Mason of this right depends upon the jurisdiction to which he may belong, or under which he may have committed a Masonic offence; and until he shall have been tried for his violation of the law, whether it be for non-payment of dues or any other Masonic offence, and the penalty declared by competent authority, the right to hold Masonic communication with his brethren remains and can not consistently with the spirit and general regulations of our institution, be denied."

M. E. Comp. Daniel A. Scott, (Akron,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. James Nesbitt, (Troy,) G. Sec'y.

OREGON.

The Twenty-second Annual Convocation was held at Portland, June 9th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. David E. Mason, G. H. P.

He reports a prosperous year, and all of the Chapters in a flourishing condition.

The Report on Correspondence is the feature of these proceedings. It covers 145 closely printed pages, and deals

with almost every subject of interest that in any way appears in the proceedings of other Grand Chapters. The author is Comp. T. McF. Patton, and he is one of the best of the guild.

Canada for 1881 receives a full share of attention at his hands. We regret that we are only able to make a few short extracts:—

"We deny the right of any Companion to object to the reception of a petition, either for the degrees or membership. If this right were admitted it amounts to nothing. The ballot is the only Masonic method of making known our objections. Companion Ogden, in his comments on this question, says he does not think that 'an objection thus made would bar the reception and reference of the petition,' and yet he argues in favor of allowing the withdrawal of the petition, if objection is made, simply because notice is given that the petitioner cannot be accepted. Masonic laws forbid publicity as to the character of our voting on the acceptance or rejection of applicants. We have no right to declare how we purpose to vote, or how we have voted. Petitions are read, and as a general rule the first information we have in regard to them is when the Secretary reads. When once read they certainly are the property of the body and cannot be withdrawn." * * *

"It is wholly unnecessary to enter into any discussion of a fact which every intelligent Mason will admit, viz.: that in ancient times 'the unanimous consent of all the members of that Lodge, then present when the candidate is proposed,' etc., was all that is required. We now hear that a 'protest,' or an 'objection,' or a simple shake of the head, a wink of the eye, or a crook of the finger, to the High Priest or Master stays progress,—in short, has the force of a black-ball."

"When a candidate passes the ordeal of a unanimous ballot, and receives one or more degrees, we are bound by every principle of honor and justice to advance him, unless it can be shown to the satisfaction of a majority of the Companions or Brethren that good and sufficient cause exists why he should not be, or in other words, that he is unworthy. If this fact is established and his advancement denied, the objector should forthwith prefer charges against him, and, if found guilty, punished by suspension or expulsion. If a candidate is unworthy to be advanced, he is unworthy to be retained. If he is unfit for the Most Excellent or Royal Arch degrees, he is unfit for that of Mark Master. No argument is required on this point; it is too plain a proposition."

M. E. Comp. James F. Robinson, (Eugene City,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. R. P. Earhart, (Salem,) G. Sec'y.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The Annual Communication was held at Philadelphia, December 27th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. Hibbert P. John, G. H. P.

In his valedictory, Comp. John desires to bear testimony to the "purity of character, devotion of service, and self-sacrificing labors of the representatives of Capitular Masonry with whom he has been officially brought in contact," and he adds "the Craft in the great jurisdiction of Pennsylvania cannot but continue to prosper while this fidelity to its principles and its interests prevails."

On their sytem of Grand Visitations he has the following remarks:—

"The system of Grand Visitations that for some years past has prevailed in this jurisdiction, is one out of which have grown most valuable results to Capitular Masonry. The Grand Officers are no longer a myth, or seen but infrequently, and then only at the Quarterly and Annual Communications at the great Masonic centre; but they now penetrate to all parts of the jurisdiction, officially visiting the remoter Chapters, authoritatively performing in their presence and for their instruction the work of the several Capitular degrees, giving needed advice to the officers of the subordinate Chapters, and creating and maintaining those intimate personal relations with a large body of the active Chapter membership, that has resulted, and must continue to result, in the development and maintenance of the best Masonic spirit throughout the Craft, and the introduction of that uniformity in the work which shall make the labor of all the subordinate bodies in the jurisdiction entirely homogeneous.

"In this connection I desire to recommend for consideration and adoption by this Grand Body a measure that will, I venture to think, materially further this end. I refer to the authorization of official visits of D. D. G. H. Priests to the M. E. G. H. Priest at Philadelphia, one or more times each year, and the defraying of their expenses on such visits, for the purpose of facilitating the communication to them of the official work of Grand Chapter, and the giving them such other needed instruction as would enable them to perform all of their official duties most wisely and well.

"These visits might be so timed as to enable the D. D. G. H. Priests to attend one or more of the Communications of the Grand Chapter. Right sure are we that the cost to the Grand Chapter of such visits would be well expended and the beneficial outcome would be promptly recognized and approved."

A project is on foot for the establishment of a Masonic

Home for aged and indigent Freemasons. On this design, the Grand High Priest says:—

"It gives me pleasure to say, that during the present year earnest attention has been given by Pennsylvania Freemasons to the important subject of founding in this jurisdiction a Masonic Home for aged and indigent Freemasons. Although our charity is liberally dispensed through the various and usual mediums of the fraternity, it seems especially appropriate that when age and poverty overtake those who have stood with us at our altars, some substantial and permanent provision should be made for their latter days. There is no method by which this can be so lovingly done as within the four walls of a Masonic Home. The Mark Lodges are now actively moving in this matter; they are asking, and doubtless will receive, the co-operation of others of the Masonic bodies; I respectfully, but earnestly, recommend to this Grand Chapter that it consider the subject, and at an early day make a generous appropriation in aid of what promises to be a new and praiseworthy Pennsylvania Masonic charity."

The newly elected Grand High Priest also delivered an Address.

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. Andrew Zane, Jr., and notices Canada for 1882.

M. E. Comp. Augustus R. Hall, G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Charles E. Meyer, G. Sec.

The Address of both these Officers is Masonic Temple, Broad Street, Philadelphia.

QUEBEC.

These Proceedings are beautifully embellished with the portraits of their Past Grand Principals, Companions Graham, Stearns, Edgar and Robinson.

The Sixth Annual Convocation was held at Quebec, January 30th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. Frank Edgar, Grand Z.

He reports peace and harmony, and the most cordial and fraternal relations between their officers and members. He mentions the death of Comp. Harington. He suggests that

the time has come for the establishment of a permanent benevolent fund in connection with the Grand Chapter for the relief of the poor and distressed.

On Craft Masonry, he says:—

"It was with great pleasure, my Companions, that we received the information that the efforts of my distinguished predecessors in this chair, the Past Grand First Principals of this Grand Chapter, who were duly commissioned by resolution of the Grand Chapter for the purpose, united with that of all good and worthy Masons, had brought about a settlement of the differences which had existed between the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Grand Lodge of Quebec; and most of us here present were privileged to assist at the Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, when the Lodges in this Province, which up to that time, had worked under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, presented themselves, and having entered the Grand Lodge in a body, were received into fraternal union with the Grand Lodge of Quebec, of which they now form an influential portion. I expected to have had the privilege at this time of rejoicing with you at the complete union of Craft Masonry in this Province under one jurisdiction; but we have to regret that the remaining three Lodges working under charters from the Grand Lodge of England, have not yet followed the fraternal example set them by the Scotch Lodges, and decided to forego what little advantage they deem they possess by their connection with the Grand Lodge of England in the interests of the Craft in this, their native, or adopted, country.

"This Grand Chapter is deeply interested in the efforts being made by the Grand Lodge of Quebec to bring about complete fraternal union with these Lodges. We know that they comprise but a very small minority of the Masons of the Province; that they refuse obedience to the local laws and regulations of the Craft; that they contribute nothing to the funds for the support and relief of the poor and distressed brethren, resident or transient; yet the Grand Lodge has instructed its Subordinate Lodges to extend to them the right hand of fellowship and good will and all the privileges of full Masonic intercourse; and gladly avails itself of the occasion to extend relief and assistance to any distressed brother, whether hailing from the Grand Lodge of England, or elsewhere. Such consistent truly Masonic conduct cannot fail to meet its reward. In accordance with the resolutions of the Grand Chapter, I have, as your First Grand Principal, been always ready to offer my services, as your representative, in promoting the object so near and dear to us all; but so far no favorable opportunity has presented itself. I trust my successor may be able to assist in placing the cope stone on the Masonic edifice in this Province, the foundation of which was laid by the formation of the Grand Lodge of Quebec. In connection with this subject some correspondence with the Grand Chapter of England will be laid before you. (See Appendix A.) I have too good an opinion of that Grand Body to think they will allow any action of their subordinate officers to cause an injury to Capitular Masonry in our jurisdiction."

All the Grand Representatives who were present addressed the Grand Chapter in suitable terms.

The Report of the Finance Committee shows a cash balance on hand of \$773.17, and in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee, the sum of five hundred dollars was ordered to be invested as a foundation for a benevolent fund.

The work adopted by the Grand Chapter of Canada was adopted as the established ritual in Quebec.

The Committee on Correspondence were unable to undertake the work. Reports were, however, furnished by a number of Grand Representatives and other Companions, among which we find a notice of our Proceedings for 1882.

M. E. Comp. H. Luke Robinson, (Waterloo,) Grand Z.

R. E. Comp. David Seath, (Montreal,) Grand Scribe E.

SCOTLAND.

We have the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland's Reporter of March, 1883.

The principal officers are:—

The Right Hon. the Earl of Mar & Kellie..	First Grand Principal.
The Right Hon. the Earl of Kintore.....	Second Grand Principal.
The Right Hon. the Earl of Breadalbane...	Third Grand Principal.
Sir Michael R. Shaw Stewart, Bart.....	Past First Grand Principal.
William Mann, S. S. C.....	Deputy Grand Principal.
William Edwards.....	Grand Scribe E.
Dr. George Dickson.....	Grand Scribe N.

Five new Charters were granted during the preceding year, for Chapters at Callao, Peru; Aberdeen, Toowoomba, Queensland; Hamilton, Bermuda; and New Plymouth, Queensland.

A Dispensation was granted by the Grand Committee to confer the Degrees of "Royal Ark Mariner" and "Red Cross"

on six duly recorded Scotch Royal Arch Masons, to form a Lodge and Council of these Degrees, to be held within the Chapter in Lithgow, New South Wales. According to this, the Grand Chapter of Scotland has control of the Degrees of Royal Ark Mariner and the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, and they are conferred in Lodges and Councils attached to the Chapter, and apparently working under the Chapter Warrant.

The following is an extract from a report by the Provincial Grand Chapter of Western India:—

"That the improvement which set in in the beginning of last year has steadily increased. Some of the Chapters in the Districts, whose members are composed of the military element principally, felt the shock caused by continual movement of troops in foreign service, thereby reducing their numbers below a working quorum, but with the return of peace and commercial prosperity, they have gradually gained strength and vitality. * * * It is gratifying to report that the Chapters in Bombay have been doing fairly well, and it is a great satisfaction to know that the principles of the Order are becoming better known and appreciated by our Parsee, Hindoo, and Mahomedan brethren. There is therefore every indication that Royal Arch Masonry, under the Scottish Constitution, is making diligent strides in Western India, and that it is drawing together all sects and denominations into one bond of fraternal union."

It was decided that a Past Z., who, during his term of office, presided over the Mark Lodge attached to the Chapter, was entitled to the rank of a Past Master of a Mark Lodge.

Our Proceedings were received, and thanks voted therefor.

From South America, we notice:—

"Grand Scribe E. tabled a letter he had received from E. C. Daniel Calvin, Principal Z. of Chapter 'Estrella Boreal,' No. 74, Collao, Peru, reporting that, in obedience to instructions from Supreme Chapter, he had inaugurated Chapter 'Peace Universal,' No. 193, Callao, Peru, and installed the office bearers. The report states 'that, on 2nd inst., (November), the new Chapter was consecrated, and the office bearers installed in strict conformity with the ceremonial sanctioned by our Supreme Chapter. There were present during the ceremony about seventy Companions. The members of the new Chapter are few, but, taking into consideration their character and standing, and particularly the Principal Z., Companion Stuart, who is a most worthy and zealous Mason, I have no doubt the new Chapter will increase and prosper, being the only Chapter in Lima or Callao that is worked in the English language.'"

The Grand Chapter of Scotland has an income of about \$2,500, and the balance on hand is about \$17,000.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Seventy-first Annual Convocation was held at Charleston, February 14th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. J. Adger Smyth, G. H. P.

On the state of the Order, he says:—

“A general outlook as given in the report on Foreign Correspondence by the Grand Secretary, presents us with the pleasing assurance that with few exceptions Capitular Masonry is in a flourishing condition, but it is with deep regret that I notice that it is chiefly in our Southern jurisdictions that these exceptions are to be found. The terrible drought of last summer, so wide-spread and so disastrous in this section of our country, has necessarily affected Masonry in all its branches, as well as every other institution among us.

“It is with great pleasure that I feel that I can honestly report that in our own jurisdiction there has certainly been no decline, and there are visible many signs of budding promise, which assure us ‘that there is life in the old land yet,’ and make us sanguine for the future. Brotherly love prevails throughout our entire borders, and I have not been called upon to hear, much less to decide upon, a single case of grievance during the past year, nor do I know of any matters of appeal to come before your Grand Body. This is cause for heartfelt congratulation. The Grand Secretary’s report, however, will show considerable dereliction on the part of some of the Subordinate Chapters, with regard to their dues to the Grand Chapter, and upon this point I urge your careful but decisive action.”

The Committee on the Address are of the decided opinion that a curtailment of the mileage and per diem would add to their financial embarrassment. They do not, however, explain this wonderful statement.

In the report of the Finance Committee, we notice that they regret that it is necessary every year to omit the report on correspondence, but the financial condition of the Grand Chapter leaves them no other alternative, and they recommend that the Grand Secretary be relieved from his duty until otherwise directed.

Several amendments to the Constitution were proposed to be acted on at the next meeting.

The mileage and per diem foots up \$245.20.

SOUTH CAROLINA,—1883.

The Seventy-second Annual Convocation was held at Columbia, February 13th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. J. Adger Smyth, G. H. P.

In his address, he says:—

“Within our own jurisdiction the past year has been ‘remarkable for uneventfulness.’

“The utmost harmony prevails—no controversy of any kind has been brought to my notice, and nothing requiring judicial action, and no questions of importance have been submitted for my decision.

“But I fear these are more the symptoms of declining health than reasons for congratulation. They call upon us for prompt action. For decisive efforts to infuse new vigor, and to arouse the Craft from that lethargy which is slowly but surely sapping its very life-blood.”

All the amendments to the Constitution were adopted. The election of officers was fixed to take place on the first day, so as to reduce the length of the session to one day. The salary of the Grand Secretary was reduced from \$200 to \$150. The per diem was fixed at \$2.50, and the mileage by stage at 10 cents per mile both ways, and in all railway travel, actual disbursements only.

During the debate, the Grand High Priest ruled that only the precise amendment proposed could be considered, and not an amendment to the amendment, unless previously noticed for one year.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

“RESOLVED,—That the Grand Secretary be relieved from making a report on Foreign Correspondence until further instructed so to do by this Grand Chapter.

“RESOLVED,—That it is the sense of this Grand Chapter that no candidate shall be advanced to any higher degree until he shall have undergone an examination in the preceding degrees to the satisfaction of the Most Excellent High Priest; and that the High Priests of the Subordinate Chapters be instructed to carry out the spirit of this resolution.”

M. E. Comp. R. C. Watts, (Laurensville,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. J. E. Burke, (Charleston,) G. Sec'y.

TEXAS.

The Thirty-third Annual Convocation was held at Houston, December 14th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. Peyton Nowlin, G. H. P.

He issued three Dispensations for new Chapters.

In the conclusion of his Address, Comp. Nowlin says:—

“M. E. High Priests, Companions, Principal Sojourners and Companions of our Chapters, don't ask what may have been done to me or you; for how often is Work in Masonry, for the want of experience, knowledge and proper practice, improperly done; but remember, that Masonry is a moral institution, and that we are engaged in a great and glorious moral work, endeavoring by everything we say and do, to teach great moral lessons, that we hope will never be effaced. Then don't forget for one moment your responsibilities. Never degrade the ceremonies of Masonry for coarse amusement. We would not have you to forget, however, that he that humbleth himself shall be exalted. We would not remove any of the true and regular work.

“I have assisted in conferring over three hundred degrees and labored, to the best of my ability, to impart the true verbiage of our beautiful ritual, and especially to get those who do the work to understand what they mean, and what grand moral idea they wish to impress that our ritual may be practiced in the spirit of its beautiful moral illustrations and teachings, and be enjoyed as such and never as coarse amusement. How well I have done this, the Companions with whom I have labored may be the judges. You will perceive that our Companions in our extensive jurisdiction are so well versed in Masonic law and principle that there has not been a single case of discipline. Questions were asked in search of light, and not in way of contention. Should we not congratulate ourselves upon the happy state of the Royal Craft in Texas? The Companions have extended that respect and attention due to the position I had the honor to occupy.”

The following is the Report of the Committee on Work:—

“Your Committee on Work would respectfully represent that on Thursday, December 7th, one week prior to the opening of this Grand Body they met, and have continued in session for the entire week, as required by the edicts of the Grand Chapter. The work has been fully exemplified in all its branches.

“Total expenses of the Committee, \$127.00.”

Some modification of this plan of disseminating the work, at less expense, might be adopted with great advantage by our own Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter. The delegates to our Grand Bodies would be glad of the convenient oppor-

tunity of getting the work correctly rendered, and we have no doubt but that it would be largely taken advantage of. Complaints are now being heard that our presiding officers find a difficulty in getting the correct work, and some plan will doubtless have to be adopted shortly to meet this want. The method in vogue in Texas seems to be a good one and to work very satisfactorily there, and we can see no difficulty in trying it here. A committee on work could be appointed to meet some days in advance of the Grand Body, and they would devote the whole of that time to the instruction of the delegates and the exemplification of the work. We have among us Brethren and Companions who are fully able to perform this duty and who would be glad to do it, as many of them take a peculiar pride in their correct rendering of the work. The expenses of the instructors could not be much, and the advantages to be gained would be worth much more than the trifling cost.

It was resolved that substitutes could be used in conferring the Royal Arch Degree, by a unanimous vote of the Chapter.

The following Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence was adopted:—

“We note particularly the decision of the M. E. Grand High Priest upon two of the several questions propounded by Comp. C. H. Stewart, High Priest of Palestine Chapter, No. 10, viz.: ‘Can a committeeman refuse to act upon a committee without giving any further reason than that he could not and would not act, stating that he thought the law did not require him to do so?’

“‘And is a committeeman subject to discipline when he refuses to act or report on a petition or petitions, filed without the fees accompanying them,’ etc., upon which M. E. Grand High Priest ruled:—

“‘A Companion, when on a committee, has a right to refuse to act, when the act required is clearly unconstitutional and contrary to the resolutions and edicts of the Grand Chapter, or contrary to the by-laws of his own Chapter, though if he refuses to act, he does so at his peril, and, if wrong, he will be subject to discipline.’

“Your committee think that a committeeman ought not to be allowed to refuse with impunity to act upon a committee when appointed by the proper authority, even though the object sought to be accomplished be considered, in his judgment, wrong. It is the duty

of the committeeman to be in his place and to act; and if he believes the measure wrong or illegal, he ought so to report, and in his place to contribute his influence to prevent it; and if he should feel aggrieved at the final action of the Chapter, he would have redress on appeal to the Grand Chapter."

We agree.

We also fully agree with the following Report and Resolution, which were adopted by the Grand Chapter:—

"We have examined the Report of the E. Deputy Grand High Priest, and find that his labors have been performed with a skilful hand. The Dispensations granted by him are all approved, we having followed, strictly, the regulations of the Grand Chapter, and the precedents of former officials of this Grand Chapter, and of the Grand Lodge of Texas, unless it be in granting Dispensation to San Felipe de Austin Chapter. No. 1, to engage in and attend a Lodge of Sorrow under the auspices of the A. and A. S. Rite Masonry. We recognize the right of the Grand High Priest and his Deputy to grant Dispensations for such purposes, but the question seems to be well settled, at least by the Grand Lodge of Texas, that such occasions must be strictly Masonic, and then not to mix up with other organizations. What do we know of the Masonry of the A. and A. S. Rite? Has that organization any more claim to our recognition than the Knights Templar, or even the Orders of Odd Fellows or Knights of Honor?

"Yet our E. Deputy Grand High Priest has given satisfactory reasons for his action in the matter—in fact, we do not see how he could well have done otherwise, with the precedent immediately before him—that of the two Lodges in Galveston having been authorized to appear on that occasion.

"To settle this question definitely, we offer the following resolution:

"RESOLVED,—That the Grand Royal Arch Chapter will not permit its officers to grant Dispensations to Subordinate Chapters, as such, to turn out in public processions for burial service."

The following resolutions were adopted:—

"RESOLVED,—That the Grand Treasurer be required to pay over to the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge, all funds in his hands after paying all the current expenses of the Grand Chapter, to be used for extinguishment of the Grand Temple debt until the same be extinguished.

RESOLVED,—That the resolution urging the Grand Visitors to sell the property and jewels of dormant or delinquent Chapters, shall not be construed to interfere with the power of the M. E. Grand High Priest to set such Chapters to work in all cases, when he may find it advisable."

Comp. Robert M. Elgin is again to the front with one of his excellent Reports on Correspondence. His language is

forcible, and he evidently means just what he says. In his notice of Arkansas, we find the following remarks on the Council degrees:—

"A decent regard for the opinion of others is proper, but if it be true as stated by the Companion, and they believed they were right, their action was far from commendable. The idea of a self-constituted body composed of a dozen or so of Masons, however distinguished, forming themselves into an organization and arrogating to themselves power to create Councils of Royal and Select Masters in any State or Territory in the Union, to infringe on the jurisdiction of Texas, Virginia and other States where the degrees have been conferred in Councils appendant to Chapters long before most of them ever received them, and declaring thousands of Masons in those States, as good as themselves in every respect, clandestine, is such a flagrant assumption that we have no patience with it. And then to see a number of Grand Chapters like that of Arkansas actually frightened into the retracing of steps deliberately taken a year or two before by the threats of this association, shows what a panic may be created and spread over the land from a very small source. This so-called General Grand Council assumes power to create Councils in Texas, or anywhere in the United States where a Grand Council does not exist. Admitting that the Grand Chapter of Arkansas had no legal right to control the degrees, what better right has the General Grand Council? Where is its superior title? They admit that the Grand Council of Arkansas had a good title to the degrees. It is not pretended that the Grand Council of Maine, New York and South Carolina had any better. Yet the General Grand Council could only claim title under them, and others like them, while the Grand Chapter of Arkansas had a regular transfer from the Grand Council. We can see no reason why a Grand Council cannot as well confer its power to a Grand Chapter as to a General Grand Council. The latter is a body never before heard of, is entirely without precedent, and the former was originally the custodian of the degrees.

"We have no fear that this new comet will strike Texas, and as to the non-intercourse policy, it will not disturb our equanimity. Let us feel that we are a more legal and regular Body than it is. We shall pursue the even tenor of our way until intolerance shall give way to that fraternal spirit which accords to others the right to think and act differently from 'our way.'"

On the insurance question, he has our hearty support. We call particular attention to the following:—

"We think the rapid collapse of various kinds of life insurance schemes, within the last year, has been a lesson to the advocates of Masonic life insurance that will pretty effectually settle the question, if the discussion and general condemnation of them by Masonic writers had not already done so. In regard to the modern secret societies, we think there is more danger. They are calculated to inoculate the legislation and practice of our Masonic bodies with their

new ideas and practices. There is no remedy for this, except to adhere more firmly to the ancient landmarks and regulations of the Order. So long as we abide by them, we need not fear either the dangers from without or within. But there is too great a disposition to change, even among the great leaders in our ranks. There is too much self-confidence among them, resulting in a desire to make Masonry what they think it ought to be, rather than what its founders made it."

Comp. Elgin gives our Proceedings of 1882 a good notice. He quotes our remarks on the non-payment of dues, and adds that the Grand Body, and not the individual Mason, is the proper judge to determine what the landmarks and ancient regulations are. He is pleased to say of our Report that:—

"Comp. Henry Robertson, as usual, presented the Report on Correspondence. It is made up largely of judicious quotations, with now and then a pertinent comment, in which we find him, as ever, 'sound as a dollar.'"

In regard to the question as to what shall be done with a petition for the degrees, to the reception of which some member objects, he says:—

"The question of the reception of the petition of Mr. Smith by the body is one thing, and the reception of Mr. Smith himself is another, and very different one. The former may be respectful in language, complete in form, and in every way a proper document for the consideration of the body. On the other hand, when the question comes up as to whether the body shall receive Mr. Smith, he may be found entirely unworthy. On the other hand, Mr. Jones may be a very exemplary citizen. But his petition may be carelessly drawn, informal and not a proper document to be considered by the body. Or it may show that the party is a minor, or a resident of another jurisdiction, all of which are questions that the body itself, by a majority vote, must decide. To expedite business it is usual for the presiding officer to say, 'If there is no objection the petition will take the usual course.' If there is no objection there is no vote taken, and the effect of an objection is simply to bring it to a vote. There is no more reason why a petition for degrees should not be received on a vote of a majority than a petition for the remission of dues. In neither instance are the merits of the case brought into question on a vote to receive."

As an "outsider" Comp. Elgin thinks that the powers of the General Grand Chapter should not be increased, and that the merits of the Craft in the various States could be

much better subserved by their respective Grand Chapters than by any foreign body.

On the same subject he says:—

“Texas, since the ‘late unpleasantness,’ has gone from 500,000 to nearly 2,000,000 population, a large part of whom know nothing of the days of war. The opinions of most of our Companions are based on the statement of facts as they appear on the record. As the facts stand, Texas owes no duty that she does not fulfil; and, until a statement that can develop some good in entering into a confederation with the General Grand Chapter is presented, Texas will still stand a ‘bright particular Lone Star.’ Increasing in membership, with harmony prevailing within her jurisdiction, ‘peace in her habitation and prosperity within her palaces,’ there is not one who will say, as Comp. Innes does, of the General Grand Chapter: ‘We are tired of paying tribute to a Body that has not dignity enough to sustain itself.’ It is scarcely necessary to say that Comp. Elgin was last year the victim of that ‘destiny that shapes our ends *rough*, hew them as we may;’ that this rough stone has been put into the walls to help to build it up, and, with the hope that the corps in dressing it down will not bear too hard on the chisels, although an ‘Eastern Shoreman,’ and by birth a ‘Shellback,’ we ask in advance to be ‘let down easy.’”

He is on the right side on the question of Lodge suspension for non-payment of dues, and its effect on Chapter standing, and he has the following very able reply to Comp. Patton of Oregon:—

“Comp. Patton is less candid in the above than he appears to be, we think. If Texas suspends a member for non-payment of dues, he is suspended from the rights and privileges of Masonry, and we deny the right of Oregon or Pennsylvania to say he is not suspended. The rule should work the same way with Louisiana. There they strike from the roll for non-payment, and declare that the punishment does not affect his Masonic standing; and we say that Oregon has no more right to declare that it does than to say that the punishment in Texas does not amount to suspension. Each State knows best what penalty it intended to inflict, and the doctrine which we contend for is that the penalty intended follows the Mason wherever he may go, whether it be a milder or a greater penalty for the same offense.

“He goes on to say:—

“Under Maine, Companion Elgin says that Companion Drummond ably defends the practice of Maine and Massachusetts of merely striking from the roll for non-payment of dues, which only excludes the Companion from the Chapter, leaving him an unaffiliated Mason in good standing. If this was all there was to defend, we would not be found entering any complaint or the least objection. But the case is different. Maine does not recognize in her Constitution and Regulations ‘striking from the roll.’

“Drummond, in his digest, says:

"The punishment for non-payment of dues can be *only* forfeiture of, suspension from, or deprivation of membership *after due trial*.

"The italics are ours.

"And, pray, what does it amount to, after all? Only this: Punishment for non-payment of dues shall be forfeiture of, suspension from, or deprivation of membership—in what? Not in the Order, but in the Chapter or Lodge, as the case may be. Now, we hope Companion Patton does not contend that membership in a particular Lodge or Chapter is essential to regular standing as a Mason. It certainly was not so originally. It is only by local laws that an initiate becomes a member of a particular Lodge. In his petition he asks only to become a member of the Order. In some States, to this day, he does not become a member of a Lodge until he signs the By-laws. But he is a Mason, 'alle same,' and must be recognized as such.

"The great trouble is, that in discussion of this question, writers do not discriminate between suspension from the privileges of Masonry and the privileges of the Lodge or Chapter. Intercourse with the former are prohibited, but with the latter we are bound as Masons by mutual ties; and while Lodges in their collective, or corporate, capacities may refuse recognition, as individual Masons we cannot ignore them."

M. E. Comp. S. M. Williams, (Houston,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. R. Brewster, (Houston,) G. Sec'y.

VERMONT.

The Sixty-sixth Annual Convocation was held at Burlington, June 15th, 1888.

M. E. Comp. Homer M. Phelps, G. H. P.

His address shows a most favorable condition of the Craft under his supervision:—

"No discord, no complaints, no rivalries, except that noble emulation of who can best work and best agree. If anything has occurred to mar this harmony it has not yet been made known to me. I have heard only the merry workmen in the quarries all the year, and their work speaks in their praise. I have not even had my 'opinion' asked or called for on any subject connected with the jurisprudence of Capital Masonry. The correspondence of this office has been principally as to the work. This shows not only the intelligence of the Royal Craft in Vermont, but their zeal and industry as well. More than one hundred exaltations have already been reported, while but sixty-two were returned at the last Convocation, and I am satisfied that in no year was ever gathered to our numbers better men than in the year just closed. We shall need them, for the ranks of our older Companions show vacant places."

He recommends the division of the State into Districts, with District Deputies to revise the work, and thereby increase the interest in the work of the Chapters. He has the following on their financial position:—

“Another matter that I feel you ought to be familiar with has occasioned me much anxious thought for the past two years, and I am at a loss to-day to find a way out of the dilemma; but, Companions, it must be sought. Our expenses for many years have been greater than our income. There is but one result from such a course. We must limit our expenses, if in such prosperous days we cannot get a larger income, or we shall be obliged to levy a direct tax on the membership. This is always an unfortunate remedy for an empty treasury. Shall we omit printing our Proceedings? The demand for them is constantly on the increase, and our Grand Secretary says our entire edition would hardly supply the Masonic libraries and collectors of this country. I am glad Masonic literature is more sought for, as intelligent reading Masons are the life of the Fraternity. But can we limit our expenses in this line? Shall we omit the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence? This costs us about two hundred dollars a year. I am aware that to many this review is the most interesting reading in our printed Proceedings, and, if omitted, their high character could not be maintained.

“I trust our Finance Committee will give these suggestions attention, and if they are obliged again this year to appropriate the entire income, I hope, when that limit is reached, that appropriations will stop. I recommend that they take the situation into consideration, and make some plan for future guidance that shall save us from the humiliation of an empty treasury.”

We notice that one of the subordinate Chapters was permitted to hold its Convocations alternately at two places, but this action was not to be held to change or alter the jurisdiction of the Chapter. This is a novelty, but it may have been necessary, and if so, we can see no harm in it.

The Finance Committee reported as follows:—

“Your Committee have considered the resolution, and that portion of the address of the M. E. High Priest, referred to us, and beg leave to report with reference thereto, that while the subject of the finances cannot receive too careful attention, yet the returns of the Grand Secretary and Treasurer show such an improvement in the finances of this Grand Body, that the raising of a per capita tax at this time is unnecessary, and we would recommend postponing any action until the next Annual Grand Convocation.”

Comp. Edward S. Dana again reports on Correspondence, and notices Canada for 1882. He regrets to see that so

many of the stations of our Grand Officers were filled by *pro tempore* appointments.

M. E. Comp. Kittridge Haskins, (Brattleboro,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Wm. H. S. Whitcomb, (Burlington), G. Sec'y.

VIRGINIA.

The Seventy-fifth Annual Convocation was held at Lynchburg, August 8th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. Geo. R. Atkinson, G. H. P.

The past year has been one of great harmony and prosperity.

The following was adopted:—

“The Special Committee appointed at the last Grand Annual Convocation to ‘prepare a Ceremony of Installation for Grand Officers, revise the Ceremony of Installation and Methodical Digest in Text Book,’ &c., have discharged the duty assigned to them, and herewith present for your consideration and action the result of their labors.

“Your Committee would respectfully suggest that the Ceremonies and Code adopted be published in the appendix to the present Grand Annual Proceedings, and that three hundred extra copies be printed and bound in separate volumes, and that three copies of the same be sent to each Subordinate Chapter free of expense.”

The transactions are very brief, and disclose nothing of any general interest.

In the appendix we find the ceremonies of the Degree of High Priesthood, the dedication of a Royal Arch Chapter, the Installation of Grand Officers, and a methodical digest of constitutional rules and regulations for the government of the Grand Chapter and of subordinate Chapters.

The Order of High Priesthood appertains to the office of High Priest, and it is conferred as an honorary degree for the purpose of qualifying a High Priest to preside over a Chapter, and it bears the same relation to the Capitular Degrees that the Degree of Past Master, or as we call it, In-

stalled Master, does to the Symbolic Degrees. It may be conferred by three Past High Priests, but only on those who have been elected to the office of High Priest of a Chapter. To confer the Degree in ample form, the presence of at least nine High Priests is required.

There is no Report on Correspondence.

M. E. Comp. H. W. Murray, (Louisa, C. H.,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. William B. Isaacs, (Richmond,) G. Sec'y.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The Eleventh Annual Convocation was held at Wheeling, November 7th, 1881.

M. E. Comp. Wm. H. H. Flick, G. H. P.

In the opening paragraphs of his Address, we find the following pertinent remarks:—

“During the past year but little progress has been made in Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction. One of the chief obstacles to our growth has been the numberless mushroom secret beneficial orders, which, born at low twelve, die at the succeeding high noon. Our returns will probably show a slight increase in membership; but a considerable falling off from the ratio of the year before.

“The year before was the year of the Templar Encampment at Chicago, and as usual in triennial years, the cause of Templar Masonry was considerably stimulated, and the only route to the Commandery being through the Chapter, an unusual increase in our membership was the natural result.

“I fear too many, desiring to become Knights Templar, knock at the doors of our Chapters because it is the only way to the Commandery, and when they have reached the object of their desires, become blind to the attractions of our most beautiful ritual, and utterly indifferent to the success or failure of the Chapter through which they have passed. While such Companions increase the membership in our Subordinate Chapters, and contribute to the funds of the cause, (if they do not dimit) the example they set is very demoralizing, and it is questionable whether Capitular Masonry would not be better off without them. They belong to the class usually denominated ‘dress parade Masons,’ and are rarely seen except on some public occasion, when they are out in all their glory.

“My labors during the past year have been exceedingly light. Not a Dispensation has been asked for, not an appeal has been taken, not a grievance has been reported. Surely the set phrase ‘Peace and harmony prevail within our borders,’ is applicable to us.”

He thinks that something should be done to secure the official visitation of each subordinate Chapter at least once a year, and he advocates the appointment of District Deputies.

He also suggests the appointment of a standing committee on ritual, in order to secure uniformity in the work, as no two Chapters are working precisely alike.

We agree with him in the opinion that the fee for affiliation should be a mere nominal sum. On non-affiliates he says:—

“These should be encouraged to unite themselves to the Chapter within whose jurisdiction they now are. One of the obstacles to their doing so is the large membership fee charged by some of the Chapters. Some years ago I changed my place of residence in this State, taking my dimit, with the intention of connecting myself with the Chapter at my new place of residence, when I found that I must continue non-affiliated or pay a membership fee of one-fourth the amount charged for the degrees. I know of no good reason why a worthy Companion, who happened to belong to a Chapter which becomes extinct, or who happens to change his place of residence, should be compelled to pay a fee or remain out in the cold, and I recommend that membership fees be abolished.”

The Grand Secretary was instructed to prepare a suitable installation service for Grand Officers.

The following report and resolutions were adopted:—

“Your Special Committee appointed to consider any special matters embraced in the address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, beg leave to report that we deem it expedient to adopt that portion of the report relating to annual visitations on the part of the Grand Council or any District Deputies that might be appointed, unless some provision can be made on the part of the Grand Chapter to defray the expenses of such visitation. Your committee recommend the following resolution:

“‘RESOLVED,—That the portion of the Grand High Priest’s address relating to dimitted Royal Arch Masons being required to pay a membership fee when desiring to affiliate with any Subordinate Chapter in this jurisdiction is heartily concurred in, and we recommend that said fees be abolished.’

“Your Committee also recommend the following:—

“‘RESOLVED,—That this Grand Chapter deems it inexpedient to place itself under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and that all committees heretofore appointed and

now in existence, having this matter under consideration, are hereby discharged.'

"Your Committee offer the following:—

"RESOLVED,—That we deplore the action of some of the Subordinate Chapters in neglecting to answer the interrogatories propounded to them by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and this Grand Chapter declares it to be the duty of every Subordinate Chapter to respond to every enquiry made by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest touching such matters as relate to the interest of Capitular Masonry.'"

The Twelfth Annual Convocation was held at Wheeling, November 13th, 1882.

M. E. Comp. William H. Freeman, G. H. P.

He reports that the membership has not increased during the past year as much as they wished. We do not think that a large increase in membership is at all desirable, or that it is any evidence of a solid prosperity. Fewer members, and those of the right quality, are far better than a crowd of unappreciative joiners.

They will still continue their practice of publishing their proceedings once in two years. Their finances will not admit of their publishing a reprint of their proceedings at this time.

A resolution was adopted that all members of Chapters must be affiliated members in good standing in a Lodge.

The Grand Secretary acknowledges the receipt of the various proceedings, and then says:—

"It has been quite impossible for us to make a condensed statement of the business transacted at and the condition of these several Grand Chapters, such as is usually presented in Reports on Foreign Correspondence, and we regret no less that we cannot have our 'shy' at the fellows who have here and there had their 'shy' at West Virginia. We have read their reports all through and have thoroughly enjoyed their wit and their wisdom, and we realize fully the importance of these reports in settling questions of Masonic law. We resent, however, their interference with the proceedings of other Grand Chapters, and their holding up to ridicule or unfavorable comment of any kind the proceedings of a body with which they have nothing whatever to do, and with whose peculiar circumstances they have no

acquaintance whatever. There should be at least a presumption in favor of the propriety of any particular custom or regulation of a Grand Chapter, but some Committees on Foreign Correspondence seem to think that all excellence resides in them, and that whatever they have not seen and approved is 'contrary to the ancient landmarks.' We could fit them with a fable if necessary, but the moral runs before the story."

A motion was made that the work as exemplified by the Wheeling Chapter be adopted as the standard work. After considerable discussion of the points of difference, the motion was rejected.

M. E. Comp. Gustave Brown, (Charlestown,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Odell S. Long, (Wheeling,) G. Sec.

WISCONSIN.

The Thirty-third Annual Convocation was held at Milwaukee, February 21st, 1883.

M. E. Comp. John M. Evans, G. H. P.

Nothing has transpired to mar the harmony of the Order, and the material that has been received is good,—“stones that will pave square in the building.” He reports three new Chapters.

We regret very much the loss of Comp. Cottrill's Report on Correspondence. He had completed it, and sent it to the printer in ample time to be printed before the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, but, unfortunately, the printing office was destroyed by the disastrous “Newhall House” fire, and the manuscript was wholly lost. The engagements of Comp. Cottrill, as a member of the Legislature, prevented his re-writing it. This calamity is more to be regretted as the author had prepared the report with more than usual care, intending to retire from the position of reporter, which he has held for 13 years.

We are sorry to lose Comp. Cottrill from the ranks of the

"Mutuals." He was an able and energetic member, full of good common sense, and his opinions were entitled to great weight.

All the Chapters that were not visited the previous year, were designated to be visited during the current year.

A resolution to hold the meetings of the Grand Chapter after the meeting of the Grand Lodge in each year was rejected.

M. E. Comp. Homer S. Goss, (Portage,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John W. Laffin, (Milwaukee,) G. Sec'y.

CONCLUSION.

Our list is complete, with the exception of five Grand Chapters, namely: Florida, 1882; Nevada, 1883; Nova Scotia, 1882; Rhode Island, 1882, and Tennessee, 1883.

We have thus finished our annual review. As our Companions cannot have the opportunity of reading all the Proceedings of other Grand Chapters, we have here provided them with the best substitute in our power. We have endeavored to give a fair and readable account of what our fellow-workers are doing in other places, and we submit this production with the hope that it will receive the same favorable consideration which our beloved Companions have accorded to our previous efforts.

In an old edition of "Preston's Illustrations of Masonry" in our possession, there is a collection of Masonic songs, anthems and odes. With one of these songs we close, as we have worked "till high twelve," and are glad to "lay down our hod."

TUNE.—"BALANCE A STRAW."

"When the sun from the east first salutes mortal eyes,
And the sky-lark melodiously bids us arise,
With our hearts full of joy; we the summons obey,
Straight repair to our work, and to moisten our clay.

On the trassel our Master draws angles and lines,
There with freedom and fervency forms his designs,
Not a picture on earth is so lovely to view,
All his lines are so perfect, his angles so true.

In the west see the Wardens submissively stand,
The Master to aid, and obey his command;
The intent of his signals we perfectly know,
And we ne'er take offence when he gives us a blow.

In the Lodge, sloth and dullness we always avoid,
Fellow-Crafts and Apprentices all are employed,
Perfect ashlers, some finish, some make the rough plain,
All are pleased with their work, and are pleased with their gain.

When my Master I've served seven years,—perhaps more,
Some secrets he'll tell me I ne'er knew before;
In my bosom I'll keep them as long as I live,
And pursue the directions his wisdom shall give.

I'll attend to his call both by night and by day,
It is his to command, and 'tis mine to obey.
Whensoe'er we are met, I'll attend to his nod,
And I'll work till high twelve, then I'll lay down my hod."

All of which is fraternally submitted.

HENRY ROBERTSON,

Chairman.

Collingwood, Ontario, Canada, July 13th, 1883.

P. S.—Since our Report was closed, we have received the Proceedings of Florida, for 1883; North Carolina, 1883; and Tennessee, 1883.

FLORIDA.

The Thirty-seventh Annual Convocation was held at Jacksonville, January 15th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. William A. McLean, G. H. P.

He issued a Dispensation for one new Chapter. He laments the death of their Grand Treasurer, Comp. Luther McConihe, and the serious illness of the Grand Chaplain, Comp. John Penny. In closing his address, he says:—

"Whenever we make the discovery that a sad decline is impressed upon everything connected with Masonic work and progress, it is a labor—not of love, but of mistaken zeal—to endeavor by any process of reformation, or upon any principle of improvement, to correct existing evils by theory and precept, in the absence of correct practice

and holy example. Nor need we go outside the circle of our own Companionship in search of causes, hoping thereby to be able to solve the problem as to why and wherefore the former times were better and more fruitful of results than these latter days, for in so doing it will appear that we fail to inquire wisely concerning the matter; it must be apparent to even the casual observer, that our Masonic Zion is wearing the habiliments of mourning; not alone because so few come to our annual feasts, but for the reason that so very few are holding fast the professions they once made, and utterly fail to perform their vows so solemnly assumed when invested with the treasures and inducted into the mysteries of the Royal Art.

"I regret exceedingly that it devolves upon me to venture the prediction, by way of warning, that unless the faithful few shall become so interested for the general good and special welfare of the Royal Arch as to gird on the armor of diligence and perseverance, and strive valiantly for the maintenance of principle, and establishment of the truth, the time may not be in the far distant future when we shall realize the fact, that our glory is turned into shame, because of the reproach of the wicked, and the triumph of ungodly men over us; if Masonry is worth anything, it certainly is worth all the labor and the best efforts we can possibly bestow upon it. In honoring the Institution we honor ourselves, and in diffusing light and knowledge, and doing good unto our fellow men, we fulfil the law; and then, but not before, are we entitled to the rewards promised to the faithful."

There are seven Chapters in this jurisdiction, with 229 members. Six Chapters were represented at the meeting.

The proceedings were very brief, and of no general interest.

M. E. Comp. George S. Hallmark, (Warrington,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. D. C. Dawkins, (Jacksonville,) G. Sec'y.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Thirty-fifth Annual Convocation was held at Raleigh, May 15th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. James Southgate, G. H. P.

In his address, he says:—

"But, Companions, gloomy as the prospect is, we are somewhat advanced beyond the point at which we were at the close of the last Masonic year. The outlook is more hopeful. Our list of subordinates has been increased by one new Chapter; some of the old have been renewed and are now in good working condition, and yet others which had apparently become weary of life—almost ready to give up the ghost, have been refreshed and are now treading the old paths with seeming vigor, redoubling their energies, determined to bear

their part in 'rebuilding the House of the Lord.' Let us, then, take courage and press forward, for we have the assurance that 'in due season we shall reap if we faint not.' Rough and rugged may be the way, obstacles may impede our progress, dangers seen and unseen may threaten, hunger and thirst may bring even death before our eyes, but if faithful, we shall soon 'arrive in sight of the ruined walls of Jerusalem and the glistening tents of our brethren.' We do look for a bright future for our Royal Craft in this State, and God grant the day dawn may soon be upon us and the sun of prosperity arise to gladden our hearts."

He issued one Dispensation for a new Chapter.

As suggested by the Grand High Priest, and recommended by the Committee on Jurisprudence, the following was added to the By-laws of the Grand Chapter:—

"When the High Priest of a Chapter is absent, or in case of his inability to act, his powers and prerogatives shall vest in the King and Scribe, in succession. In the absence of all these officers from a stated Convocation or a special Convocation legally called, the Junior Past High Priest present may open the Chapter and preside."

On the subject of the Council Degrees, the following resolutions were adopted:—

"RESOLVED,—That, in view of the report of the Committee of this Grand Body that the joint committee representing the Grand Chapter and Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, could not agree upon any recommendation to this Grand Body on the subject of consolidating the two systems, this Grand Body will receive the degrees of Royal and Select Master under its jurisdiction if requested to do so by the Grand Council.

"RESOLVED,—That the four principal officers of this Grand Body and the three principal officers of the Grand Council, said Grand Council assenting, be appointed a joint committee to agree upon terms of transfer of the degrees of the Council to the Grand Chapter, and that their action shall be final."

Also the following:—

"WHEREAS,—The Grand Chapter of this State has convened in different places from year to year, the object sought being to infuse new life and vigor in the Subordinate Chapters at the several places of meeting; And, WHEREAS, a system of liberal entertainments has been provided and the expenses of the representatives have been paid by the Subordinate Chapter and members thereof at the place where the Annual Convocation is held; And, WHEREAS, the Grand Chapter is desirous of preventing a repetition of the same in the future, but continuing the migratory system, therefore,

"RESOLVED,—That the Grand Chapter earnestly requests that the entertainments be discontinued, and recommends that the personal expenses of the representatives be paid either by themselves or by their respective Chapters."

The report on Correspondence is by Comp. J. I. Macks, and notices Canada for 1882.

M. E. Comp. Eugene Grissom, (Raleigh,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Donald W. Bain, (Raleigh,) G. Sec'y.

TENNESSEE.

The Fifty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Nashville, February 1st, 1883.

M. E. Comp. William E. Eastman, G. H. P.

On the condition of the Order, he says:—

"This subject demands our serious consideration. It is useless to deny the fact that for several years past Capitular Masonry has been at a stand still, if not losing strength, in our jurisdiction, and the past year has been no exception to former years. There is a great lack of interest in nearly every section of the State; many Chapters holding only one or two meetings during the year, and but very few have had any increase in membership.

"I would urge the necessity of a Grand Lecturer or Grand Visitor, who could devote his whole time, or most of it, to visiting the Chapters throughout the State. This matter was passed over last year on account of a lack of funds, and a consultation was had with the officers of the Grand Lodge to try and arrange with the Grand Lecturer for that body, but this was given up on account of a belief that the Grand Lecturer would have his hands full with the Lodges. In my opinion if it is found that with the present receipts his expenses could not be paid, the *per capita* tax should be increased to meet the additional expense."

The Committee on Jurisprudence say:—

"We regret to learn of the depressed condition of the Order, and agree with the Grand High Priest that some system of instruction and visitation should be adopted. We therefore recommend that whenever in the estimation of the first four Grand officers of the Grand Chapter, a competent Companion can be employed to instruct the Chapters, that the Grand High Priest be authorized and empowered to send said Grand Lecturer forth, at a salary not to exceed six hundred dollars a year."

R. E. Comp. William Gibson appears as their representative near Canada.

M. E. Comp. James D. Richardson, (Murfreesboro,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. John Frizzell, (Nashville,) G. Sec'y.

INDEX TO PROCEEDINGS, 1883.

	PAGE
Annual Convocation, where held.....	179
" Statement, Grand Scribe E.....	224, 225
" " " Treasurer.....	226
Address of Grand Z.....	188
" " Report on.....	231, 232, 233, 234
Audit and Finance, Report on.....	229, 230, 231
At Rest.	252
Appointment of Grand Officers.....	237
Admission all of Royal Arch Masons as Visitors	187
Balances in Ledger.....	243, 244, 245
Credentials, Report of Committee on.....	182
Chapters, Represented.....	182, 187
Committee, Executive, Elective	236
" Scheme, Benevolence.....	238
" " " Report	219, 222
Communications.....	227
District Superintendents	235
" " Installation of.....	236
" " Reports of.....	193, 219
Deaths.....	252
Election of Officers.....	234, 235, 236
Executive Committee, Elected Members.....	236
" " Appointed Members.....	236
FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE, REPORT ON	
Commencement	215
Grand Chapters Reviewed.....	215
Alabama.....	216
Arkansas	218
California.....	220
Colorado	222
Connecticut	225
Delaware	226
District of Columbia	227
Florida.....	319
Georgia	231
Illinois.....	232
Indiana	236
Iowa.....	238
Kansas.....	240

	PAGE
Kentucky	242
Louisiana	245
Maine	248
Maryland	254
Massachusetts	256
Michigan	262
Minnesota	265
Mississippi	269
Missouri	270
Nebraska	274
New Hampshire	277
New Jersey	284
New York	285
North Carolina	292, 320
Ohio	293
Oregon	296
Pennsylvania	298
Quebec	299
Scotland	301
South Carolina	303
Tennessee	322
Texas	305
Vermont	311
Virginia	313
West Virginia	314
Wisconsin	317
Table of Statistics	253
Conclusion	318
Grand Chapter—Opened	182
“ “ Grand Officers present	179
“ “ Grand Representatives present	180, 181
“ “ “ Officers elected	234, 235, 236
“ “ “ “ appointed	237
“ “ “ “ installed	236
“ “ Closed	239
“ “ Grand Superintendents of Districts present	180
“ “ Grand Officers, List of	257
“ “ and Addresses of Grand Officers	261, 262
In Memoriam	253, 254, 255, 256
List of Grand Officers	257
“ “ Representatives	259, 260
“ “ Executive Committee	258
Letters of Apology and Invitation	227
List of Chapters by Districts	263, 264, 265
Notices of Motion	238
Past Grand Officers present	180

	PAGE
Report of G. Supt., London District.....	193
“ “ Wellington “	195
“ “ Hamilton “	196
“ “ Huron “	198
“ “ Toronto “	200
“ “ Ontario “	211
“ “ Central “	214
“ “ P. Edward “	213
“ “ N. Brunswick “	216
“ “ Manitoba “	217

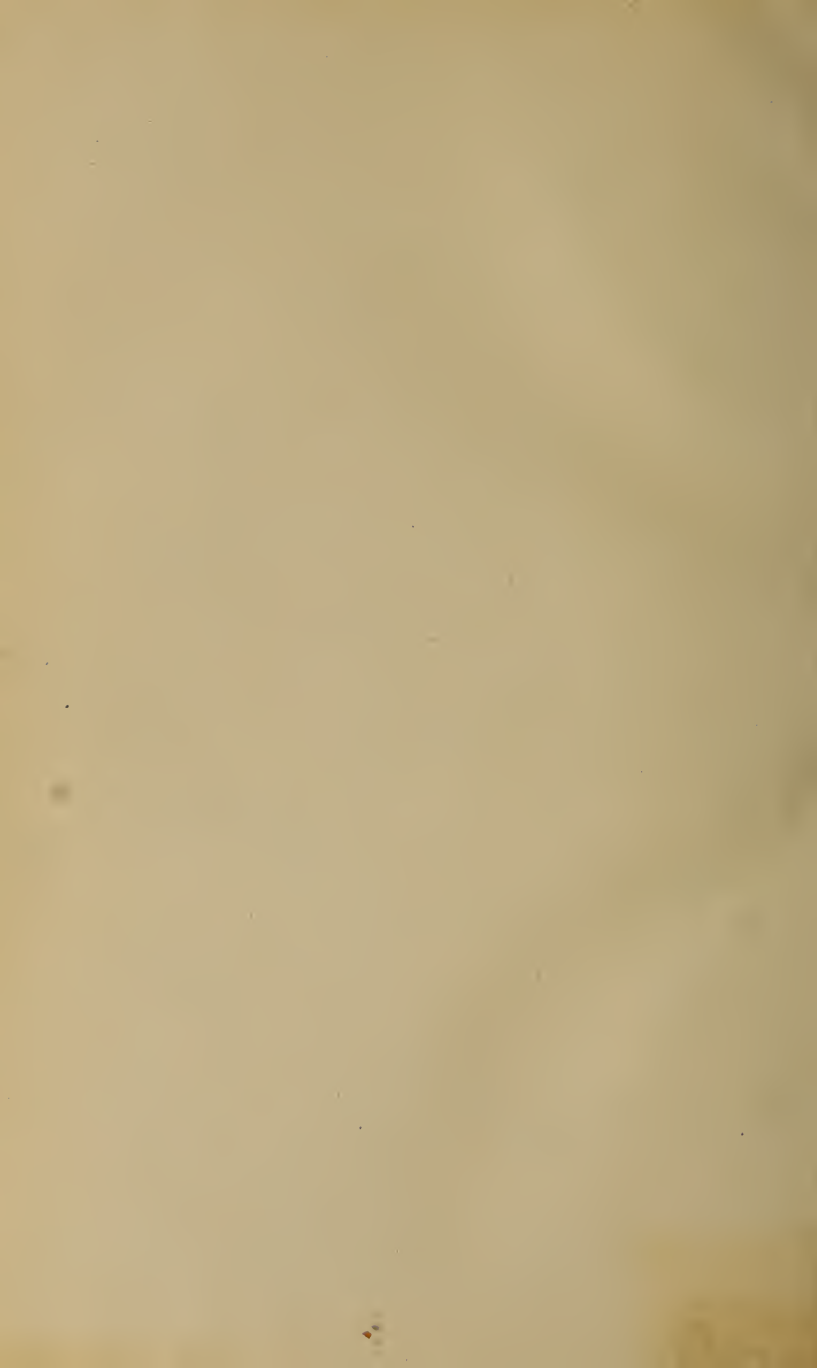
REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON:—

Grand Z.'s Address	231, 232, 233, 234
Condition of Capitular Masonry.....	228
Audit and Finance.....	229, 230, 231
Warrants.....	227
Report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, appendix.....	214
“ “ “ “ presented....	223
“ “ Credentials	182
“ “ for Grants of Benevolence.....	219

RESOLUTIONS:—

To receive and adopt Report of Committee on Credentials..	187
To confirm Minutes of the Annual Convocation, 1882	188
To refer Address of G. Z. to the Executive Committee ...	193
That the Reports of the Grand Superintendents be received and referred to the Executive Committee.....	222
To receive and print as an appendix the Report of the Com- mittee on Foreign Correspondence.....	223
That the Annual Statements of the Grand S. E. and Grand Treasurer be received, and referred to the Executive Committee.....	227
To receive and adopt the Report of Executive Commit- tee.....	228, 229, 231, 234
That a Vote of Thanks be tendered the Ottawa Comps....	238
To amend Constitution	234
Testimonial Committee to M. E. Donald Ross.....	238
To confer the rank of Past First Principal Z. on E. Comp. Otto Klotz.....	237
To appoint a Committee to procure and present a testimo- nial to M. E. Comp. Donald Ross.....	237
That 2nd and 3rd Principals may have the privilege to con- fer the M. M., P. M., and M. G. M., under the direction of the Presiding Principal.....	238
Returns of Subordinate Chapters.....	240, 241, 242
Restorations.....	251
Recapitulations.....	249
Suspensions, N. P. D.....	250
Tabular Statement.....	246, 247, 248





R. DUNCAN & CO.
STATIONERS,
BOOK BINDERS,
LITHOGRAPHERS,
HAMILTON, ONT.

SPCL HS 719 C2 A3 1883-86

